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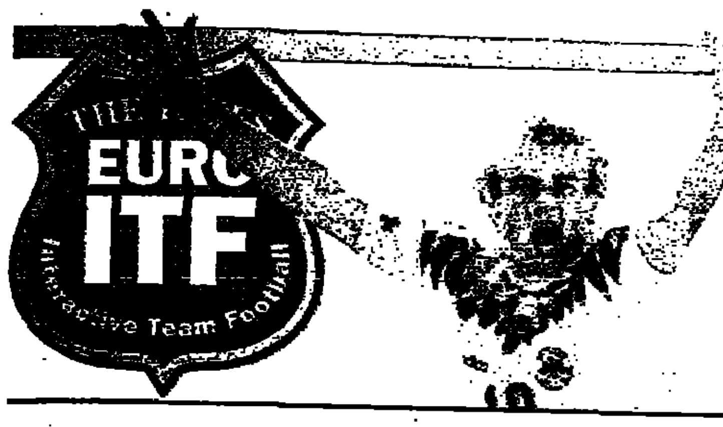
SATURDAY MAY 18 1996



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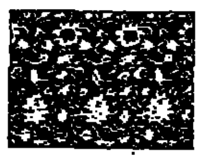

William Morris, hero and genius
PAGE 20

The 7-day TV and radio guide

Both sides kick out four

Britain expels Russians in spy tit-for-tat

By Michael Binyon, Richard Beeston in Moscow and Michael Evans

RUSSIA said yesterday it has asked Britain to withdraw four diplomats from Moscow within the next few days. In retaliation, four Russian embassy staff were asked to leave Britain within a fortnight.

The order, handed to Sir Andrew Wood, the British Ambassador, comes after Russian accusations almost two weeks ago that British embassy staff had had links with a Russian government official accused of espionage.

The Russians indicated originally that they would demand the withdrawal of up to nine British diplomats; negotiations between Sir Andrew and Yevgeni Primakov, the Russian Foreign Minister, reduced the figure to four.

Neither side would give the names or grades of those who have been asked to leave and the way in which the announcement was made clearly indicates that both sides have tried to limit the damage to their relations. Nobody has been declared "persona non grata", the ultimate diplomatic sanction, which normally would prevent the diplomat named from ever returning to the country from which he was expelled. Britain and Russia emphasised that the four, technically, have been withdrawn by their own governments, even if under duress.

Whitehall sources made clear that the Russians who are leaving have not been picked at random but are all members of the Russian intelligence service. They are suspected of having been ordered to gather scientific and technological as well as political and economic intelligence.

Whitehall officials said yesterday that the outcome was satisfactory and Britain regarded the matter as closed. They said there was never any question of avoiding expulsions altogether: but the Russian Federal Security Service, the successor to the KBG and known as the FSB, claimed to have caught a man who was supplying intelligence information to MI6. No details of the connection have been given to the British side, but the FSB was pressing hard for swift, wholesale and public expulsions.

The Russian accusations unleashed the worst espionage row since the Cold War and originally raised fears that Anglo-Russian relations would suffer a severe setback. However, an open dispute quickly surfaced between the FSB and the Russian Foreign Ministry which Britain was able to exploit. Sir Andrew met Mr Primakov to try to limit the damage, but in the end both were forced to accept that there would have to be diplomatic casualties.

Britain has never acknowledged any intelligence activities by its diplomats in Moscow. But although Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, originally said the Russians' proposed measures were wholy unjustified, the subsequent guarded statements by the Foreign Office have made no attempt to suggest that British officials had been framed or that the Russians had not caught someone they believed had been spying.

Details of exactly who the spy is and what he passed on to the British are still not clear. The FSB said that the alleged traitor had been arrested last month. It was reported that he had worked in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a young first secretary.

The biggest losers in the affair are the British Secret Intelligence Service (SIS) and the FSB, the former because the removal of four genuine SIS officers, if the Russians have got their files right, is a blow to a relatively small service, and the latter because it had made great play of wanting nine British diplomats kicked out.

The blow for SIS is that it takes a long time to provide Russian-language training and instruction in "Kremlinology". If the four to leave are SIS officers, their departure will disrupt for the time being covert operations, including the controlling of agents.

TONY HARRIS

Kim Caswell using a hairdryer yesterday to put life into her rare Malaysian anthuriums in readiness for the Chelsea Flower Show next week

Cold shakes the buds of Chelsea

By Joanna Bale and Peter Foster

THE return of winter was hampering preparations yesterday for next week's Chelsea Flower Show, with growers anxiously hoping that their prize exhibits will bloom in time.

As one garden designer, Kim Caswell, resorted to using a hairdryer to bring on her rare Malaysian anthuriums, others have been forced to use more conventional methods of artificial heat and light in greenhouses.

Mrs Caswell, of Bexleyheath, south London, said: "My bathroom is full of plants such as bird of paradise and anthurium. It's so cold we are wrapping them in plastic." Another competitor is rueing the day that he decided on a tropical theme for his £55,000 outdoor garden exhibit as the cold weather threatened to blight his exotic plants.

Roy Treherne, the horticultural director of Wyevale Garden Centres in Hereford — the largest garden centre company in the UK — said that he is having "nightmare" trying to keep his banana plants and tropical flowers in prize-winning condition as he puts the finishing touches to his exhibits. Still hoping for his third Chelsea gold medal in a row, he said: "I should have chosen this theme last year when we had a heatwave.

"The leaves on my banana plants are going brown from the cold and my ferns have also suffered in the night frosts. My flowering plants such as hostas and iris sibirica are just buds, when they should be in full bloom." Mr Treherne said that he was about £5,000 over his £50,000 budget because he had been forced to buy in from other growers.

Margaret Rayment, who runs a family business selling wire containers for conservatories, said: "The cold weather has really knocked my pelargoniums and busy lizzies for six. They are three weeks behind. By the time the show opens next week they will be looking very scruffy and we will probably be seeing more container than plant."

Douglas Knight, from Formby, Lancashire, has been exhibiting at Chelsea for 26 years and specialises in rock and water gardens. He has had to override the lack of colourful flowers with some golden conifers. He said: "It's held my azaleas back and we are hoping for some sun by the start of the show. It's the same with the alpines — a touch of sun and they will be all right."

The show opens to members of the Royal Horticultural Society on Tuesday and Wednesday and to the public on Thursday and Friday. All 180,000 tickets are sold in advance, and more than 700 exhibitors spend about £20 million creating magnificent displays for the judges.

Forecasters were last night predicting good news for the exhibitors: warmth and sunshine early next week with the prospect of temperatures up to 25C (77F) for the forthcoming Bank Holiday.

Forecast, page 24
Stephen Anderton: Weekend, pages 1, 2

Paedophiles to go on register

A national register of convicted paedophiles is to be established to track them for life and try to prevent them working with children.

They would have to tell the police when they change address and would be banned from working with children formally or informally. The aim is to make sex offenders "marked men" and they would stay on the register until death ...Page 7

The official album

Sticker Wars

Merlin Publishing has had to withdraw more than two million Euro 96 stickers from sale in a legal battle with Panini for a £10 million market .... Page 9

Police at risk

Police forces face lawsuits for negligence if they fail to prevent crimes being committed, after a decision by the European Commission of Human Rights......Page 2

£1.5bn windfall for shareholders

National Power, the electricity generator, set a record by announcing it would pay almost £1.5 billion of cash back to shareholders. The utility, the target of a US bid a month ago which the Government blocked, said it would pay shareholders £1 a share — sending its value rising to 547p. Labour said the dividend boosted its case for a windfall tax on privatised utilities..........Page 25

V&A to get glass face

By A Staff Reporter

THE Victoria & Albert Museum revealed plans yesterday to build a new "exploding" glass extension designed by a Polish architect and costing £46 million.

Dr Alan Borg, the director of the museum, claimed that the extension, for which the V&A would be seeking £30 million from the National Lottery, would become a national icon that would rival the Eiffel Tower or New York's Empire State Building.

Others, though, dismissed the design as "gratuitous attention-grabbing". Critics described the glass extension to the museum as "overpowering, forbidding and oppressive", as well as "unnecessary and undesirable".

At the same time, the V&A announced that it was abandoning its policy of asking only for voluntary donations from visitors. From October, it intends to charge an entrance fee "in the region of £5".

London landmark, Page 5

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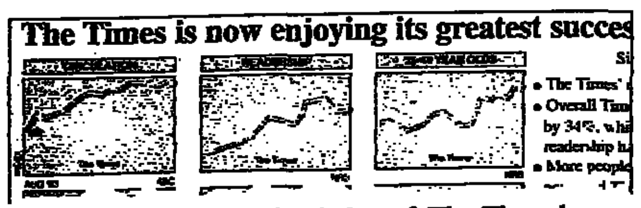

Since August 1993 circulation of *The Times* has nearly doubled........... Success story, page 2

Howard condemns European court

By Andrew Pierce
Political Correspondent

MICHAEL HOWARD yesterday delivered the Cabinet's toughest attack on the European Court of Justice and raised the prospect of Britain clawing back powers from Brussels.

Hours later a sharply contrasting view of Europe was *outlined by Kenneth Clarke*, the Chancellor, who warned Tory MPs against Europhobia and urged a constructive approach to the EU. "Like it or not, a successful relationship with Europe is vital to our future," he said.

The Home Secretary, in his most Euro-sceptic speech, floated the idea of a "made to measure off the peg" EU which would see Britain standing apart while other countries moved towards closer economic and political union. He envisaged a time when individual member states selected proposals they wanted to proceed with.

Senior Tories insisted last night that there was no rift between the two men. "It is just a matter of interpretation," one senior Tory said.

But the Conservatives' discomfort over Europe was heightened yesterday by John Redwood, who waded into the fray. In a speech in Gainsborough, he said: "The Government could do something about this [the court]. It could re-establish the supremacy of an Act of Parliament over European Court judgments. The problem ... is that we have no means of influencing or changing the judges."

It emerged yesterday that *Mr Howard's speech* was approved by Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary — although, as is usual, it was unseen by Downing Street. It was being viewed by many senior Tory MPs as a dress rehearsal for next month's EU inter-governmental conference in Florence where the court will be on the agenda.

In contrast to Mr Clarke's unconditional support for Britain's EU membership, Mr Howard, in his speech to the European Research Group conference, said only that the reasons for staying in "remain strong".

He revived the concept of "variable geometry" and a flexible approach to further European integration. He criticised EU leaders who have

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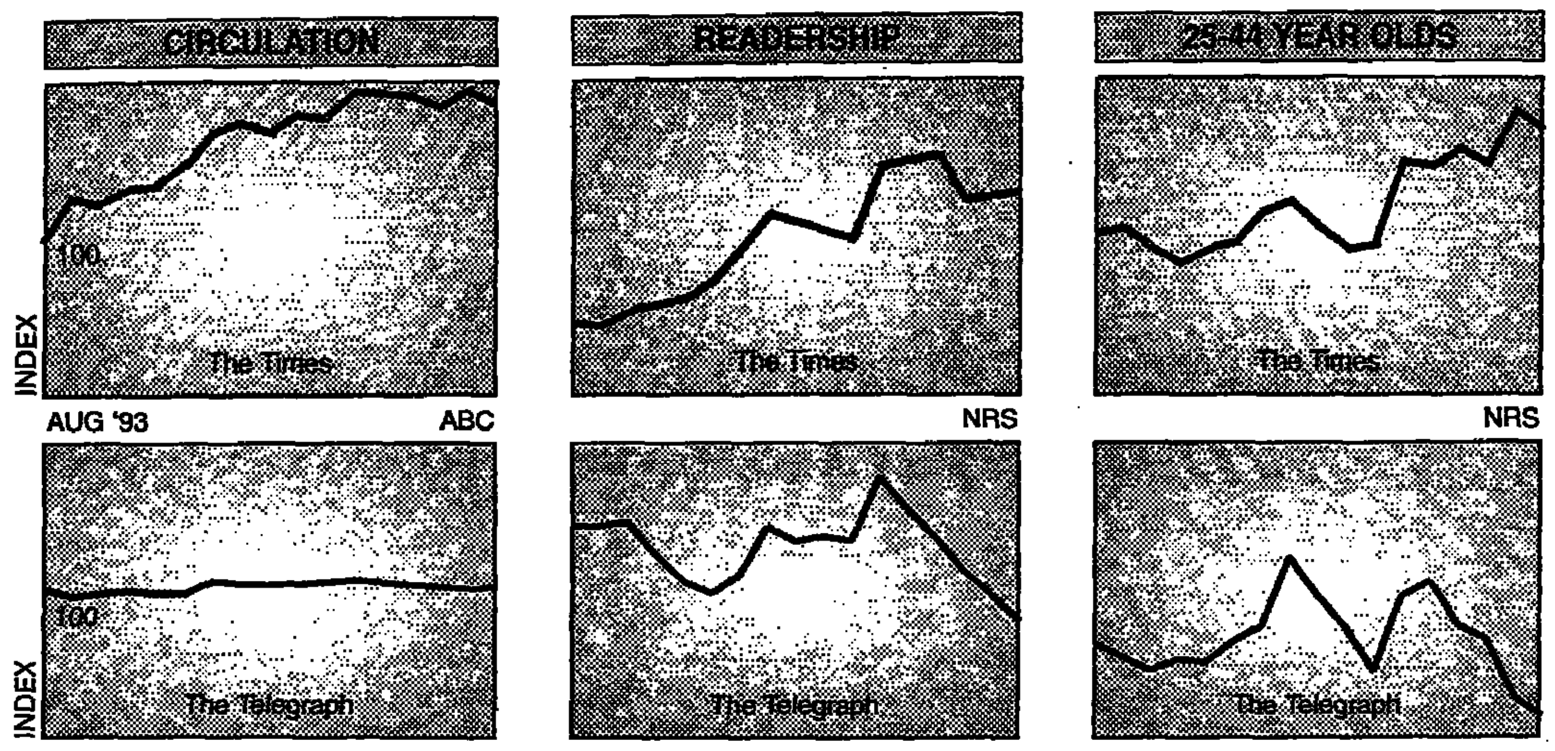

Since August 1993...

- The Times' circulation has nearly doubled.
- Overall Times readership has increased by 34%, whilst The Daily Telegraph's readership has fallen by 10%.
- More people between the ages of 25-44 now read The Times than any other quality daily newspaper.
- Today's seven section Saturday Times now has one hundred pages more than three years ago.

CHANGING TIMES

Police could be sued for failing to prevent crimes

By Richard Ford, home correspondent

POLICE forces could be sued for negligence for failing to prevent crimes being committed, after a landmark decision yesterday by the European Commission of Human Rights.

The family of a man shot dead by an obsessive man won the right to challenge the immunity of the police from claims of negligence over failing to stop crimes occurring. Mulkiye Osman, his widow, also alleged that police in east London had failed to take adequate steps to protect her family's right to life in spite of receiving specific warning of the danger they faced.

Ben Emmerson, counsel for the family, said after the private hearing in Strasbourg: "Police in Hackney were guilty of a catalogue of errors and inaction which substantially contributed to Mr Osman's death.

"This case is the first time the European Commission of Human Rights has declared admissible a case based on the State's failure to grant protection from a criminal. Mrs Osman and her son Ahmed have already lost a case in the British courts in which they sued the Metropolitan Police for negligence after the killing of Mrs Osman's husband by a man who had given warning that he would carry out a 'thing like the Hungerford massacre' because of his obsession with Ahmed.

Paul Paget-Lewis, a suspended teacher, had become obsessed with the youth, then aged 15, whom he taught at a school in Hackney. He changed his name to Paul Osman and harassed the boy and his family including putting obscene graffiti near entrances to the school.

In 1988 Paget-Lewis went to the family's home in Clapton, east London and killed Ali Osman and seriously injured his son Ahmed. He then went to the home of his deputy headmaster, shot and injured him and killed his 17-year old son. He was sent to Broadmoor top-security hospital, Berkshire after being convicted of manslaughter on grounds of diminished responsibility.

Mr Emmerson told the hearing that under Article 2 of the European Convention on Human Rights, the right to life, the police were under a obligation to protect the life of Mr Osman and his son. He said the obligation had been breached by the failure of the police to provide protection in spite of being kept informed of threats by Paget-Lewis.

The Government argued that it was only when there was a real, direct and immediate threat to life that the police could be liable to take specific actions and that in this case, no threat to shoot any member of the family had been made before the incident. "The incidents in which Paget-Lewis was suspected of being involved tended to suggest that his anger was directed equally against a number of other people" the Government argued.

The two sides will not seek to negotiate a settlement.

Tory old guard says Right may cost power

By Andrew Pierce
Political correspondent

Hurd: said tax cuts would damage nation

DOUGLAS HURD, the former Foreign Secretary, said last night that pre-election tax cuts would lead to a rise in interest rates, damage the country and cost the Tories the election.

Viscount Whitelaw, one of the party's elder statesmen, also weighed in with advice yesterday and told "disloyal" Tory MPs that unless they buried their differences the next election was already lost.

In a rare intervention on domestic policy, Mr Hurd sided against right-wing critics who are arguing for substantial tax cuts, paid for by reductions in public spending in November.

Mr Hurd, speaking in his Witney constituency, derided John Redwood's alternative blueprint for government, *Action not Words*. He said: "The slogan, Action not words, is thoroughly respectable though a shade fusty. Its worth depends on the merit of the actions proposed. Unmerited tax cuts in November, against a background of sacked teachers and soaring interest rates, would be damaging to the country and fatal to the Conservative Party."

Mr Hurd said that if the chancellor were to cut taxes, and pretend that the effect was painless, the political reaction would be the opposite of what was intended. "The markets were not born yesterday. Tax cuts, against the evidence of the true state of the economy, would produce a rise in interest rates."

Lord Whitelaw, in a newspaper interview, said that the Tories had been afflicted by a new disease — "Disloyalty to the leader. If that stays with us, which it probably will, we will lose the election."

No spending without saving, says Brown

By Arthur Leathley
Political correspondent

GORDON BROWN last night emphasised his message to Shadow Cabinet colleagues that they must make no spending commitments before finding savings.

As Labour prepared to thrash out manifesto commitments at this weekend's National Policy the Shadow Chancellor painted a pessimistic picture of government finances and told senior colleagues that they needed "iron discipline" to deal with "a difficult legacy" left by the Conservatives. "Saving before spending is the way we will proceed". Mr Brown said.

His hardline message was reinforced by Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, who will chair the forum. Amid growing backbench demands for more spending commitments, Mr Cook said that improving public services could only come after savings had been made from reducing unemployment and reducing waste: "When we get that unemployment down, then you have the resources to put into those public services, on education, on health and on public transport to make sure that, once again, we have public services in Britain of which we can be proud."

Mr Brown used his speech to businessmen in the City to emphasise that he will not be deterred from cutting back on spending, despite recent internal criticism of his plan to remove child benefit for 16 to 18-year-olds. He said: "Labour's public spending decisions must be sustainable and they will be. And setting priorities involves tough choices and hard decisions, and we will not duck those decisions." He also warned that senior Labour figures should not trust government figures on borrowing.

☐ Labour yesterday announced plans to increase taxes on "gas guzzler" cars and and overhaul company car taxation. The party leadership was criticised by left-wing MPs for toning down earlier drafts of its policy.

Borrowing blow, page 26

Howard

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insisted Britain cannot have an "a la carte" Europe. He said: "This flexible approach ... will prevent the political earthquake which would undoubtedly result from trying to follow the federal route. This may indeed mean some states would be able to repatriate powers exercised by Brussels."

Mr Howard's strongest words were reserved for the European Court, a Eurosceptic target since it backed Spanish fishermen's compensation claim from Britain. There was, he said, growing concern that it was "adopting its own political agenda. Some of its judgments appear to have gone beyond the text of the treaties."

Mr Clarke, delivering the 1996 Macmillan Lecture at Nottingham Trent University, said: "We need as a nation to accept that we are in the European Union for good, and then to work constructively to shape it for the best." He added: "The European option is not an alternative to national prosperity and political success: it is a vehicle towards prosperity and success because outside Europe our economic weight and political voice would be diminished. We have greater ambitions for our nation than to be just a Switzerland with nuclear weapons."

Right-wing Tory MPs last night vowed to press on to try to persuade sympathetic ministers to take up the case for a Government Bill to emasculate the European Court.

The fragile truce was further undermined when Lord Plumb, leader of Tory MEPs, condemned calls to leave the EU as "puerile political posturing". In a speech last night, he said: "Those who portray the damaging myth of Britain's withdrawal live in cloud-cuckoo-land. They are misleading the British electorate."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Redwood fails to deter Goldsmith

John Redwood's hopes of forging a deal with Sir James Goldsmith, to prevent the Referendum Party leader challenging Tory candidates at the next general election, have been dashed. In the Referendum Party's spring newsletter, Sir James has ruled out negotiating any kind of a compromise with the Euro-sceptics.

Mr Redwood, the former Tory leadership challenger, has urged Sir James not to field candidates against Conservative MPs, claiming that the Referendum Party risks splitting the Euro-sceptic vote and letting in the more federalist Labour Party. But in the newsletter, seen by *The Times*, Sir James confirms his intention to field candidates against all MPs who oppose a referendum on Europe.

Baby car seats recalled

At least 25,000 car baby seats have been recalled because of a manufacturing error that could have left toddlers vulnerable in a road crash. The problem was uncovered when parents complained about broken and cracked handles on Klippan Carrytots, the country's second biggest selling car baby seat. Owners of suspect seats have been asked to telephone 0800 600888 for free replacement seats.

Animator's body found

Police are searching for a suspected drug dealer after the discovery of the body of a young film animator in a shallow grave in a wood near Bristol. Anthony Richards, 27, vanished last month after leaving a pub with £2,300 which police think he was carrying to buy cannabis. They believe the drugs deal went wrong and are now anxious to interview a 28-year-old man who left the pub with him.

Cliff death driver held

An 18-year-old man was arrested after a police hunt yesterday for the driver of a van that plunged over a 60ft cliff killing two young people. He was detained for questioning eight hours after the Renault van carrying six passengers careered off the coastal road at Kingsgate Bay, near Broadstairs, Kent. The group, all from the Ramsgate area, was on its way home after a night out in Margate.

Boost for BBC radio

The BBC's share of radio audiences is back above 50 per cent for the first time in more than 18 months, helped by strong performances from Radio Five Live and Radio 1. The corporation gained an extra 500,000 listeners a week in the first three months of 1996. Radio 5 Live reached a record of almost 5¼ million listeners a week while Radio 1 has added 200,000 to its weekly audience.

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Victim's family hurl themselves at millionaire after Old Bailey verdict

Court uproar as Bonham cleared of death crash

By Carol Midgley

A MILLIONAIRE auctioneer had to be led to safety from an Old Bailey dock amid uproar yesterday after being cleared of causing the death of a charity worker by dangerous driving. Nicholas Bonham, a friend of the Prince of Wales, appeared stunned as the son and daughter of Eric Franklin, 59, hurled themselves at the dock, screaming "You killed our dad".

Police were called to quell the disturbance as Mr Franklin's daughter ran from her seat in the public gallery, shouting "Scum, upper class scum. Bastards like him don't get justice."

Bonham, 47, deputy chairman of the Knightsbridge-based auctioneers, was fined £500 and disqualified for 12 months for careless driving, which he had admitted. It took six dock guards backed by police officers to escort him to safety.

Mr Franklin died after being struck by a BMW motorcycle ridden by Bonham as he walked across a pedestrian crossing on September 7 last year. He never regained consciousness after the accident in Battersea, southwest London, near the charity shop where he worked, and died two days later in hospital from skull and brain injuries.

Bonham was doing approximately 30mph, having overtaken two cars which braked to a standstill to allow Mr Franklin, wearing a trilby and carrying a black holdall, to cross. Bonham, who began riding motorcycles at 16, told the court: "I didn't see Mr Franklin at all. He was obviously there, I am sorry."

Yesterday Mr Franklin's son, Steve, tried to get into the dock, shouting: "You are going to die" after Bonham was sentenced. His sister was helped from court, but lay down at the entrance in hysterics. Before he was escorted from court, Steve Franklin added: "We are the lower classes. The likes of us would be locked up."

The daughter had struggled with dock officers for several moments in an attempt to get to Bonham — who was sitting with his head in his hands. She shouted: "You killed my Dad and he was our only parent," then pleaded, "I just want to talk to him" before being led away by guards. One told her: "He's not worth it love." Bonham, as any defendant not jailed, would normally have walked out of the dock, into court and then left the building. But because of the reaction to the jury's verdict he was directed out through the cell area.

Outside the court, Bonham, obviously shaken, said: "The whole thing has been a tragic accident and I am distraught at what happened. I think the result is absolutely right and I am pleased for that. But I am very sad for the Franklin family and I know what they are going through."

Judge Paul Collins had told Bonham that he sentenced on the basis he had been acquitted of causing death by dangerous driving but had admitted from the outset that he drove without care and attention. He said he bore in mind the "precise nature" of the charge.

"I cannot attempt to measure the value of life which has been lost by the result of your driving without due care and attention. That would be quite wrong on a charge of driving without due care and attention," the judge said.

But he added it was a bad case of careless driving and Bonham's response to the possibility of a pedestrian on the crossing was "quite inadequate". He took into account Bonham's "excellent character and that you showed remorse from the moment the impact took place".

Mr Franklin, a retired lorry driver and father of four, had worked voluntarily at a Sue Ryder charity shop. He had eleven grandchildren and was understood to have been planning to move to Somerset.

Timothy Langdale, QC, for the defence, said: "This is something that has caused him considerable anxiety and distress since it happened and as a result not only does he now find he has to take sleeping pills but his hair has gone rather greyer than it was."

Bonham, who also numbers Prince Edward among his friends, lives in in Battersea with his Australian wife Kay, a former model, and daughters Jessica and Katie and has been deputy chairman of the family famous auction house since 1987.

RUSSELL BOYCE

Bonham, a friend of the Prince of Wales, leaving court after being led to safety

Parents of Allitt victims attack payout offer

By Dominic Kennedy, social affairs correspondent

FAMILIES whose children were killed or injured by the nurse Beverly Allitt condemned a £500,000 compensation offer yesterday. They must accept the money within a fortnight or lose it.

All 22 parents have to agree to the ex-gratia offer or face a long battle through the courts against Lincolnshire Health Authority. Those who feel they have the strongest claims fear they will be under intolerable pressure to accept the deal in case the rest end up with nothing. If the money was split equally, each family would get just over £40,000.

The new deal is an attempt by health chiefs to persuade ten of the parents to drop their court claims to be compensated for post-traumatic stress. It has taken three years for the offer to be made and it comes only three weeks after the Trent Regional Health Authority was abolished and replaced by Lincolnshire.

Alan Davidson, whose son Michael was left with psychiatric problems after an attack by Allitt, said: "I think it's a bit late in coming. If one family turns it down, the whole lot falls."

There have already been compensation payments for most of the four children murdered and nine attacked by Allitt, ranging from £10,000 to £1 million and from injury to loss of life. Some of the mentally injured have received interim payments until the full damage can be assessed when they are older.

The £500,000 is Lincolnshire's fighting fund in case the families, who receive legal aid, refuse to drop their pursuit of compensation. For that reason, it is available only if they all drop their claims.

If they accept the money, they will have two months to negotiate how it will be split. Each parent will have to be diagnosed as suffering post-traumatic stress to receive compensation.

Peter Phillips, from Grantham, whose daughter Becky died and her twin Katy, now five, suffered serious brain damage, said: "We wouldn't accept an equal amount because we have suffered a double trauma, but at the moment we just don't know how they plan to divide the money. In order to qualify, the families must all have been within the hospital or grounds within 30 minutes of Allitt attacking the children."

Paul Paxton, solicitor for Mr Phillips, said: "The real concern is that the parents who have got better claims are under a lot of emotional pressure to sign. My clients are very concerned that, after all these years, they are faced with having to make a decision within 14 days."

Allitt is serving 13 life sentences in a top-security hospital for the attacks on Ward 4 of Grantham and Kesteven Hospital in 1991.

Stalker woman made up her story say detectives

By Stewart Tendler

POLICE said yesterday that a woman who claimed she was raped by a stalker while under their protection had faked the attack and forged threatening letters from the man. The woman is standing by her story.

Cambridgeshire Police have begun winding up a five-month investigation costing £200,000, David Winser, the assistant chief constable, said there was no independent evidence for any of the allegations. The woman could be suffering from a mental condition described as disassociated identity disorder, said Mr Winser: "She was a victim — perhaps of herself."

The police investigation began when the alleged victim, a senior sales official for a magazine publisher, claimed she was being harassed by a man called Chuck. She produced letters from him and claimed he was calling her. Police placed a camera outside her flat in a village near Huntingdon village and gave her recording equipment.

In January, she claimed the stalker had got into her home, raped her and fled. The tape from the camera had been wrenched out and burnt.

The bill for investigating her allegations included the cost of a team of up to 40 detectives, a special computer system, a visit to Holland to check part of her movements, national appeals, and the aid of a specialist in preparing psychological profiles of offenders. Protection cost £30,000. Police took 286 statements and followed up more than 1,000 possible leads.

Mr Winser said yesterday that there was no evidence that "Chuck" ever existed. There were increasing inconsistencies, and the woman some history of mental problems.

The letters from "Chuck" are thought to have been written by her. There was never any proof that anyone had actually rung and threatened her.

Mr Winser said the Crown Prosecution Service considered there was a prima facie case against the 33-year-old woman for wasting police time, but they did not believe they would get a conviction. Police felt vindicated over attacks alleging they had failed to protect the woman.

The woman, who is separated from her husband and three children, has been housed on an RAF base during the investigation. From there, she said yesterday that she had not lied and maintained her story was true.

She is expected to move from the base in the next few days. Police expect her to receive medical help, and welfare agencies have also been alerted. Her employers in Hertfordshire said they had no comment to make about the case. The woman has been working part-time since the investigation into the rape began in January.

In the tiny village where she lived, a number of villagers claimed they always thought the story had been made up, and others were angry that fear of serious crime had intruded on their lives.

One woman said: "Until this happened, we let our daughter cycle to the next village. After the rape story, we always drove her." Another woman said: "It was nasty. There were all these police here. This had always been such a quiet village."

The woman lived in a flat on the edge of the village. Local people were questioned twice by police, who checked 200 inhabitants. One neighbour said: "She owes the village an apology. Elderly people were scared out of their lives. There is no sympathy here."

Picture of a wanted man issued by police during the investigation. It is thought he never existed

Railman left job with heavy heart

By A Staff Reporter

A TRAIN driver who weighs at least 20 stone has complained that he was squeezed out of the job he loved because of his weight.

Bob Christie, 36, was told to lose weight because he could not move around in his cab easily. Loadhaul, the national rail freight company, also feared that his bulk would make him too slow to seek help in an emergency.

Mr Christie, who is a magistrate in his home city of Sunderland, was given a year's paid leave to slim down and Loadhaul offered to sponsor him through a slimming course. But he was even heavier when he was due to return to work.

The driver said he had agreed to take redundancy because he feared that he would be sacked. Yesterday he accused Loadhaul of being "fattist". Mr Christie, 36, a bachelor who is now unemployed, said: "I loved the job and I had a unique view of the countryside, it was wonderful. I miss the banter with the lads as well."

Mr Christie admits to being "over 20 stone" but refuses to reveal his full weight, thought to be nearer 25 stone.

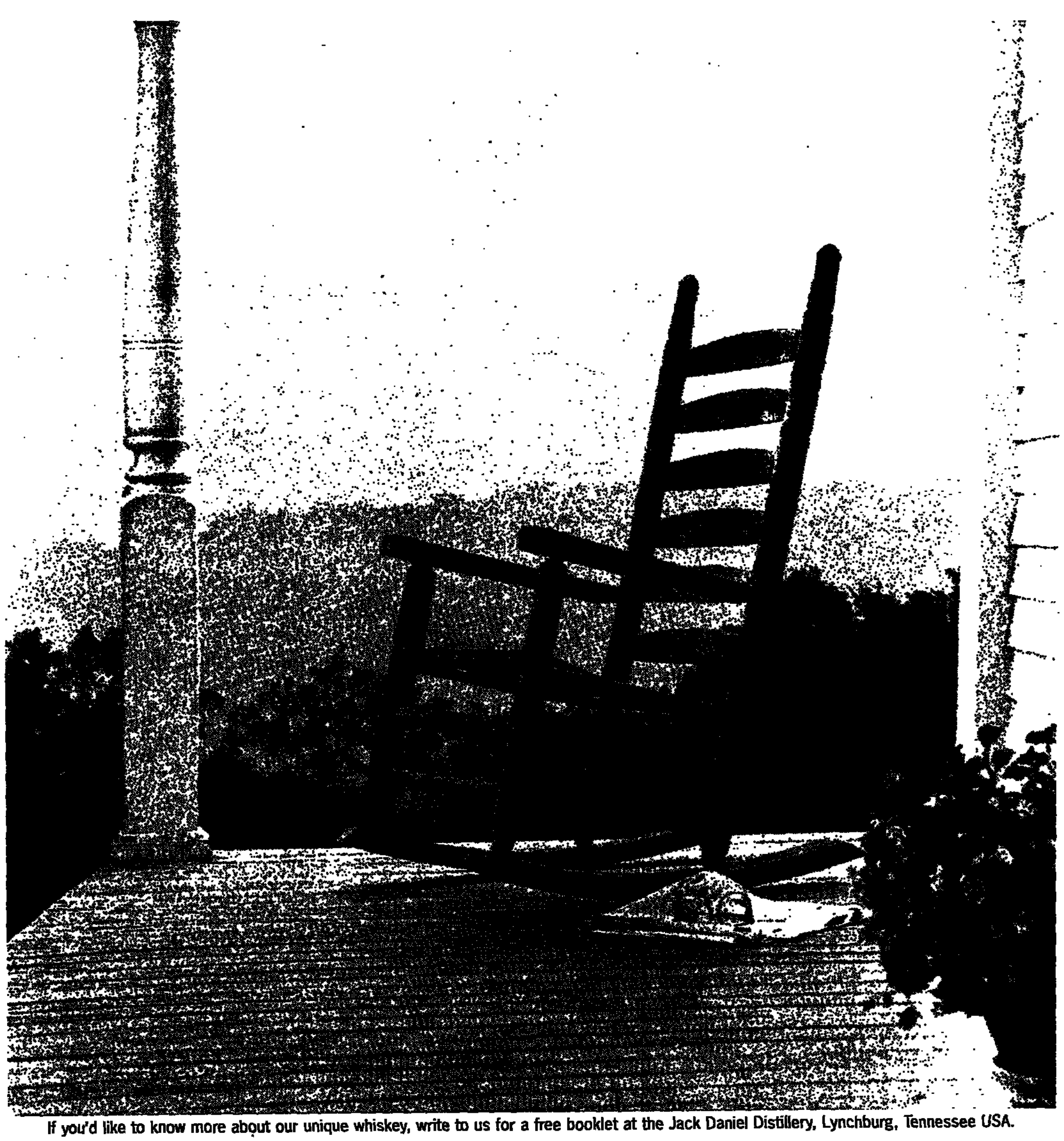
"Loadhaul said I could not do my job but never attempted to test me properly. My size has never impaired my ability to drive a train, which does not actually require a lot of physical effort," he said.

"It is not beer that causes me trouble, I rarely drink. I like eating and eat too much junk food like Chinese takeaways. On the railways you can start at any hour of the day and it is more convenient to buy burgers and takeaways because you never know when you will be getting home.

"They gave me a year off to try to sort myself out. During that time I put more weight on. I was under a lot of pressure and couldn't slim. If I had still been at work I would have been more active and it would have been easier for me."

Loadhaul said it had no rules against fat people: fitness, not fatness, was the concern. "Rules were issued by Railtrack. A train driver has to be fit and healthy to make sure all safety requirements are met. We have bent over backwards to try to help him to retain a job."

Christie: was given year off to lose weight



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JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

Poisoned water in Cornish town was a coincidence, says teacher with sick daughter

Father rejects leukaemia link

Darren Milner, an under-14s rugby player, is in hospital with leukaemia

By Adrian Lee

THE father of one of three classmates who contracted leukaemia at a Cornish school said yesterday that he believed his daughter's illness was an unlucky coincidence. Philip Lassels, a primary school teacher from Camelford, said he did not believe that water contamination in the town eight years ago was linked to the leukaemia cluster.

His daughter, Eloise, 13, returned home from hospital yesterday after her second course of treatment. A classmate, Darren Milner, also has leukaemia and Gavin Shiers, a third pupil at Sir James Smith's school, died from the illness in January.

The three cases in the same town, which has a population of under 3,000, are mystifying doctors and alarming some parents. Normally, the entire Cornwall and Isles of Scilly health authority area would expect to experience fewer than ten cases a year.

Mr Lassels said he hoped the cluster might provide a breakthrough in the battle against the cancer. "So little is known about how childhood leukaemia starts. The one good thing that could come out of this tragedy for us is that it could give them pointers to possible causes and treatments."

Mr Lassels, head teacher at Otterham Infants School, was living in Camelford when a lorry driver unwittingly tipped aluminium sulphate into the town's water supply in July 1988, affecting 20,000 people. "It is just coincidence," he said. "To look to scapegoats like water or radon is just speculation. Basically we just don't know. These things happen. It is exceptional and, because it is exceptional, it might provide a breakthrough."

He said that his daughter, who was treated in hospital in Bristol, had been very brave and had been back to school for a few days this term wearing a cap to conceal her loss of hair. "As an adult it is very humbling to see a child react so positively. She is not bitter. She knew from the beginning that it was life-threatening, but after the initial shock her response was that she was going to get better.

"Gavin's death was devastating," he added. "But this is a close-knit community. One the privileges of living in a small community is that in times of crisis they support people in practical ways."

By yesterday afternoon there had been 35 calls to a helpline set up by the health authority. The other 20 or so pupils in the same class will be offered blood tests next week. Mark Nicholson, a spokesman for the education authority, said there had been no panic and no parents had kept their children away from school.

However, one mother, Hilary Walmisley, said she had asked that her son Giles, 15, should not have lessons in the same block where the leukaemia sufferers were based. She was considering withdrawing her three children from the school.

"They have given us the stock answers. I feel if you don't make a fuss they will just cover it up," she said. "It was like that with the water incident. I have taken my son out of the block concerned to eliminate him from anything that could be in there."

The latest victim to be diagnosed, Darren Milner, was reported to have been playing rugby for Launceston Juniors until a few weeks ago. A family friend said he was now in hospital. "I spoke to him last night and he felt a bit better. He has had some new blood, but he is still very poorly."

There is still simmering resentment in Camelford about the water contamination. Some people still complain of suffering debilitating illnesses and want a public inquiry. They mistrust reassurances from health officials and nothing will convince them that the leukaemia cluster is a coincidence.

Ann Ahrens, 55, and her family received just over £1,000 compensation for the effects of the water pollution. Her toenails fell off and for many months her husband Clive, 57, could not muster the strength even to bend down to tie his shoelaces. Their son, Stuart, now 27, a promising eventer, has only recently regained enough balance to ride again.

Mrs Ahrens said: "I believe the water is to blame for the leukaemia. We were poisoned and were denied the truth. People still feel mistrust for what happened then. How can we believe what we are told now?"

Playtime provides a clue to cause of childhood cancer

By Dr Thomas Stuttaford

THE puzzle of why there are clusters of leukaemia cases has been heightened by its diagnosis in three 14-year-old classmates from Camelford. When the town's water supply was contaminated by aluminium sulphate in 1988, people complained of diarrhoea, skin trouble, muscle weakness, joint pains and a poor memory. There is no evidence of an increased liability to infection, however, and experts said they expected no long-term ill-effects even though traces of aluminium were still detectable in the bones of some residents seven months later.

As a young doctor I was called to see a child of about three who had been unwell for a day or two. The boy was pale, breathless, had a very inflamed throat and a high temperature. Most striking, however, was that his legs were bruised and one knee was painful and swollen from bleeding into the joint. The child had acute leukaemia and soon died, as happened before treatment became as effective as it is now.

The family lived in a former pub that had been split into three houses. Within a year I was called to a child of a similar age in one of the other houses. The parents had made the diagnosis themselves because the symptoms were so similar to those of their neighbour's boy. This child, too, had leukaemia. The symptoms of acute leukaemia are a result of bone marrow failure, with consequent anaemia, bleeding and lack of resistance to infection.

Although leukaemia clusters are well recorded it is not known whether they are a result of exposure to risk factors such as organic chemicals, some drugs and radiation, or whether they are caused by adverse environmental factors combined with a viral infection. They may be pure chance. But although aluminium poisoning seems an unlikely precursor to leukaemia, it and any other possible factor has to be investigated.

Leukaemia is less common in social groups whose children mix frequently from an early age than it is among children from isolated homes. It has been suggested that gregarious children may be exposed to infective agents while they still have protection from their mother's antibodies.

The study of leukaemia is highly specialised and although a haematologist will treat all varieties of disease, many have expertise in a particular type. Leukaemias are classified as acute or chronic and are also divided into groups depending on the type of white cell involved in the malignant process, hence such terms as acute lymphoblastic leukaemia or chronic myeloid leukaemia.

Treatment has been one of the success stories of medicine in the past 30 years. A combination of drugs and good supportive care results in many cases being cured. Sixty per cent of children with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia survive and even more initially show good response to treatment and have a long period of remission.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

DAYS OF SHAME

It is just a blurred family snapshot of a smiling couple and their young son; but it is a clue to the truth of what happened in the doomed Bosnian town of Srebrenica in July last year, when thousands of lives were sacrificed on the altar of political cynicism. Tomorrow, Jon Swain reveals shocking findings in his inquiry into the worst European war crime since the second world war

THE SUNDAY TIMES tomorrow

Ignored beer law comes to a head

By Alan Hamilton

OF ALL the laws on the statute book, the one forbidding pub landlords to serve over-generous measures of beer has not figured highly in the crime statistics. Drinkers may be surprised to learn that it even existed.

Yesterday the Home Office announced that publicans who put too much in a glass will no longer be committing a criminal offence. Last night's long-term forecast was for little change.

The so-called "long pull" offence has been in existence for 75 years and in theory has attracted a £500 fine. Its last incarnation was in Section 165 of the Licensing Act 1964, repealed yesterday. It died for want of prosecutions and from an uncanny absence of customer complaints.

Timothy Kirkhope, the Home Office minister, said: "The offence no longer serves any useful purpose. It is absolute nonsense that it remains on the statute book."

Drinkers in the early Twenties must have felt as oppressed by regulation as smokers or car drivers of the Nineties. At the height of the war, Lloyd George had watered their beer and restricted their drinking hours on the dubious grounds that drink was slowing munitions production.

To make it illegal for landlords to squirt an extra swallow into glasses can only have been the last straw.

Present-day pub laws are different, but equally ludicrous. Publicans may serve a pint of beer — having beaten off the threat of the half-litre — but they may not offer a pint of shandy. It may well be a pint, poured to the last drop of exactness, but it has to be described simply as "large".

Never mind long measure: what concerns the customer at the bar these days, as ever, is the danger of being served short measure. On that score, Mr Kirkhope said, the Government had no intention of changing the law. A pint may now legally be 21 fluid ounces, but it still can't be 19.

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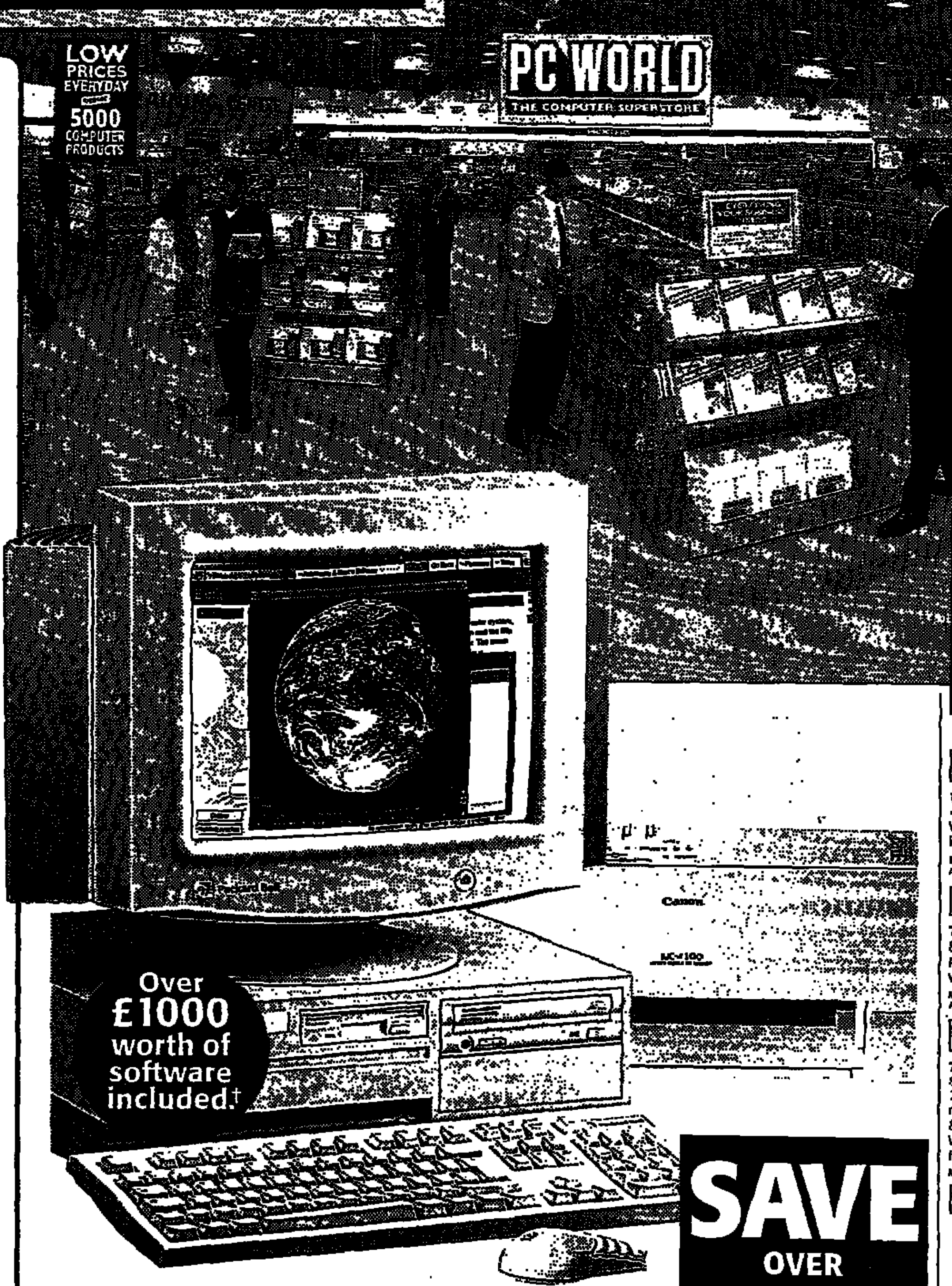

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Architects deplore V&A's 'exploding' glass extension

BY MARCUS BINNEY
AND MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE Victoria and Albert Museum is to have an "exploding" glass extension seven storeys high. Intended as London's answer to the Louvre pyramid, it will fill the courtyard at the side of the museum with a giant spiral and change the capital's skyline.

A Polish outsider beat Britain's top architects in the competition to design the £42 million structure, which was variously described yesterday as "hideous" and "a potential landmark".

As the oddly-angled extension and its architect, Daniel Libeskind, were unveiled, it was also announced that from October the V&A will replace its voluntary donation policy with an admission charge "in the region of £5". The trustees said the decision was taken as a consequence of cuts in government grants. Last year the museum raised about £1 million from 1.2m visitors. Under-18s will still be admitted free.

Dr Alan Borg, the museum's director, said yesterday: "The new boiler house extension will achieve the status of a national icon, like the Eiffel Tower in Paris and the Empire State in New York."

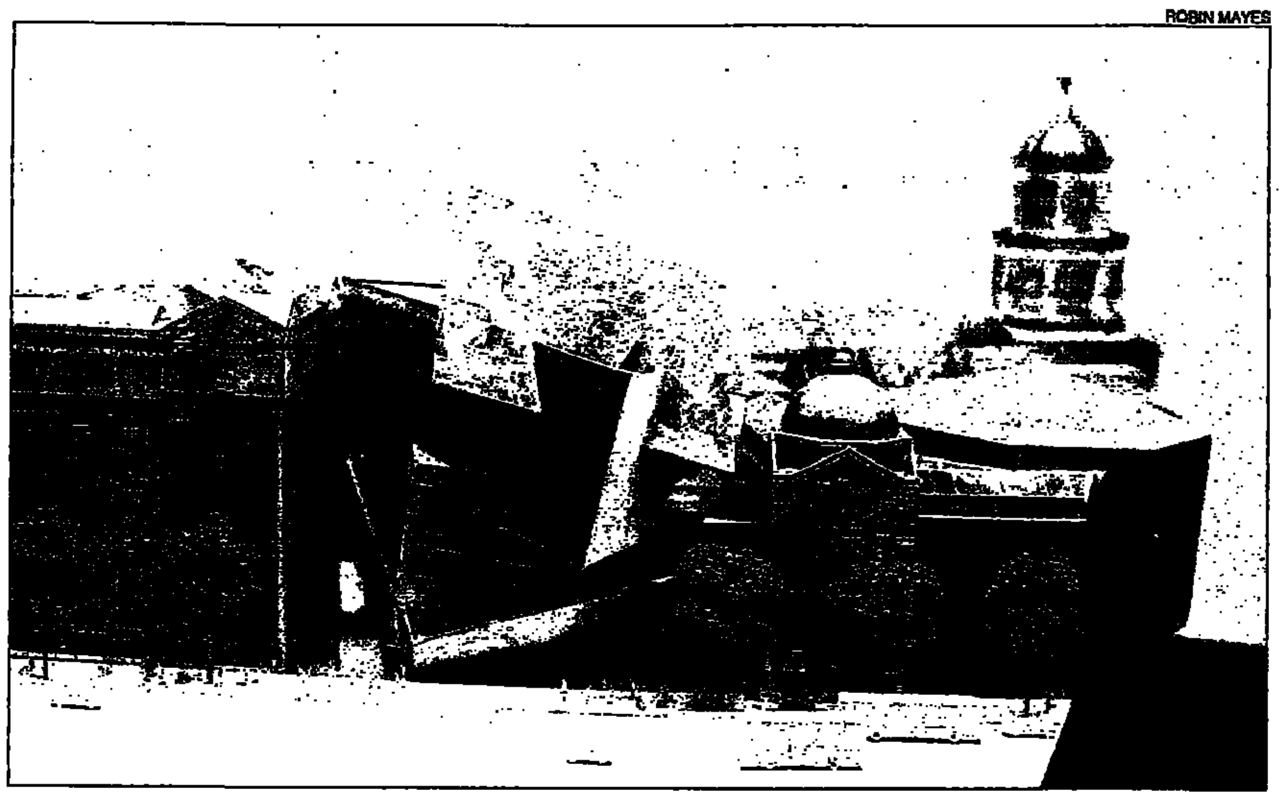
Dr Giles Worsley, Editor of *Perspectives on Architecture*, the magazine published in association with the Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, was less enthusiastic. "It's a gratuitous pieces of attention grabbing. It solves none of the problems of the V&A and has only been produced in a desperate attempt to get the museum out of the doldrums. It's extremely hideous and innapropriate."

Libeskind: loves V&A's "labyrinthine feel"

However Owen Luder, president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, said: "This has the potential to be a landmark building. The Brompton Oratory is a complete contrast with the V&A on one side, so why not this on the other?" The Exhibition Road extension, which is still at the "conceptual design" stage, will be the subject of a £30 million bid for National Lottery cash. It will require planning permission from Kensington and Chelsea council and is likely to face a public inquiry by the Environment Secretary. Meanwhile, it comment will be invited from the Royal Fine Art Commission and the Prince of Wales.

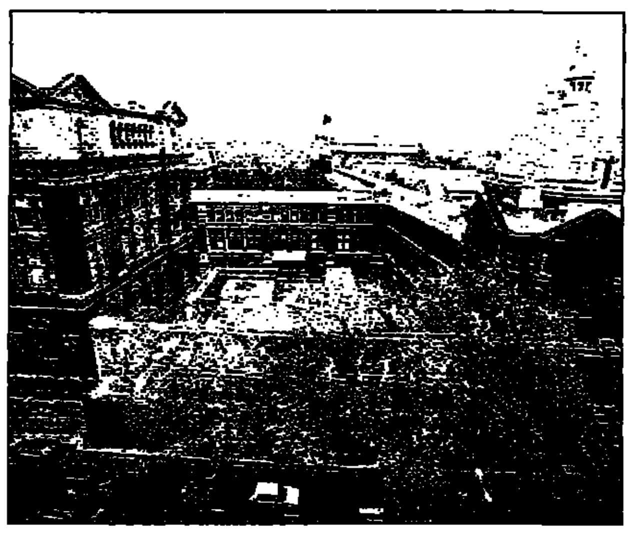
Visitors will ascend by express lift or escalator to a glass crystal observatory cantilevered over the roof of the museum to look into the Pirelli Garden in the main courtyard. The top will be 12 metres below the museum's tower on Cromwell Road.

Mr Liebeskind said: "I love the labyrinthine feel of the V&A, and we will be opening new roots through the museum, linking with the Italian art galleries at ground level, the 20th century galleries at second level, and research facilities above." A 1,000 square metre exhibition hall will be introduced beneath the Pirelli Garden.



ROBIN MAYES

The new extension is equivalent to seven storeys in height and would fill the boiler house yard, below



The design, which may appear unbuildable, is the result of close collaboration with a leading engineer from Ove Arup, Cecil Balmond, who said: "The design is structurally quite simple with sheer stressed walls leaving the interior free of any columns." Sophisticated engineering techniques and computer-aided drawing systems enabled architects and engineers to produce complex geometric shapes made of repeating parts.

Mr Balmond added: "Daniel said the challenge was to make the old work with the new. I suggested tiles. With modern techniques, the tiling can be a structural element, but it will also bring back decoration in a way in which it has not been used in architecture. We can have colour and texture and the public can sponsor individual tiles."

Sir Michael Hopkins, a runner-up in the competition, said: "The brief meant filling the boiler house yard with seven or eight storeys, wall to wall. I felt something more modest, a little jewel, was needed."

Sir Hugh Leggatt, secretary of Heritage in Danger and a former member of the Museums and Galleries Commission, said: "It is overpowering, forbidding and oppressive."

John Martin Robinson, the architectural historian, commented: "This reinforces one's worst fears about the lottery, encouraging unnecessary and undesirable buildings and ruining fine architecture in the process."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Leading law firm cleared of negligence

Britain's biggest firm of solicitors was cleared of negligence in a High Court case brought by a wealthy old Etonian that could cost the taxpayer up to £200,000.

Mr Justice Parker dismissed a £1 million claim by Dominic Trusted, who was on legal aid, that Clifford Chance was at fault in not ensuring that multi-millionaire Eric Hopton finalised his will. Mr Trusted, 22, of central London, was to receive £50,000 in the will.

Spoils of war

Soldiers who have returned from operations with illegal "war trophy" weapons will be urged to hand them in during a three-week amnesty next month. Weapons smuggled home have included grenades, handguns and a hand-held rocket launcher.

Men shot in car

A passenger in a parked car was shot dead and two other occupants injured when a man opened fire from a passing vehicle in Heston, west London. One of the wounded has serious back injuries. Two men are being questioned by Hounslow police.

Post waste

Martin and Alex Squance, of Farndon, Nottinghamshire, discovered that the Royal Mail had burnt or returned a month's post because the new front gate opened outwards. The Royal Mail said it was hard to open the gate without damaging the gatepost.

Opt-out challenge

Staffordshire County Council has been given leave by the High Court to challenge an opt-out by St Benedict Biscop Church of England school in Wombourne. The council says the school misled parents over the benefits of grant-maintained status.

Jethro Tull star ill

Ian Anderson, the Jethro Tull star, is seriously ill in an Australian hospital. Anderson, 48, has a blood clot. The band has cancelled the European, Australian and New Zealand legs of their world tour. British dates in November are in doubt.

Degas view

The Degas exhibition private view for *Times* readers has been over-subscribed and we regret we cannot accept further applications. The coupon referred to on page 40 of today's Magazine as appearing in Weekend has therefore been withdrawn.

Solicitor died of drinking

A SOLICITOR drank herself to death after suffering problems dealing with cases of child abuse and visiting prisoners in jail. Diane Milner, 30, had drunk the equivalent of at least 14 whiskies when she died, an inquest was told.

She was found face down on a sofa by her father after he forced entry into her house. A post-mortem examination found the eight-stone lawyer had acute alcohol poisoning.

Her father, Malcolm, told the York inquest how his daughter developed a drink problem after qualifying as a lawyer: "Until she qualified, she was always a happy and stable girl. But during the time she trained, there were aspects of the job she did not like at all, like child-abuse cases and seeing prisoners in jail."

She had a job with a legal firm in Middlesbrough but lasted only a few weeks there, he added. Her GP, Dr Trevor Julian, said there had been numerous failed attempts to stop her drinking. Verdict: accidental death.

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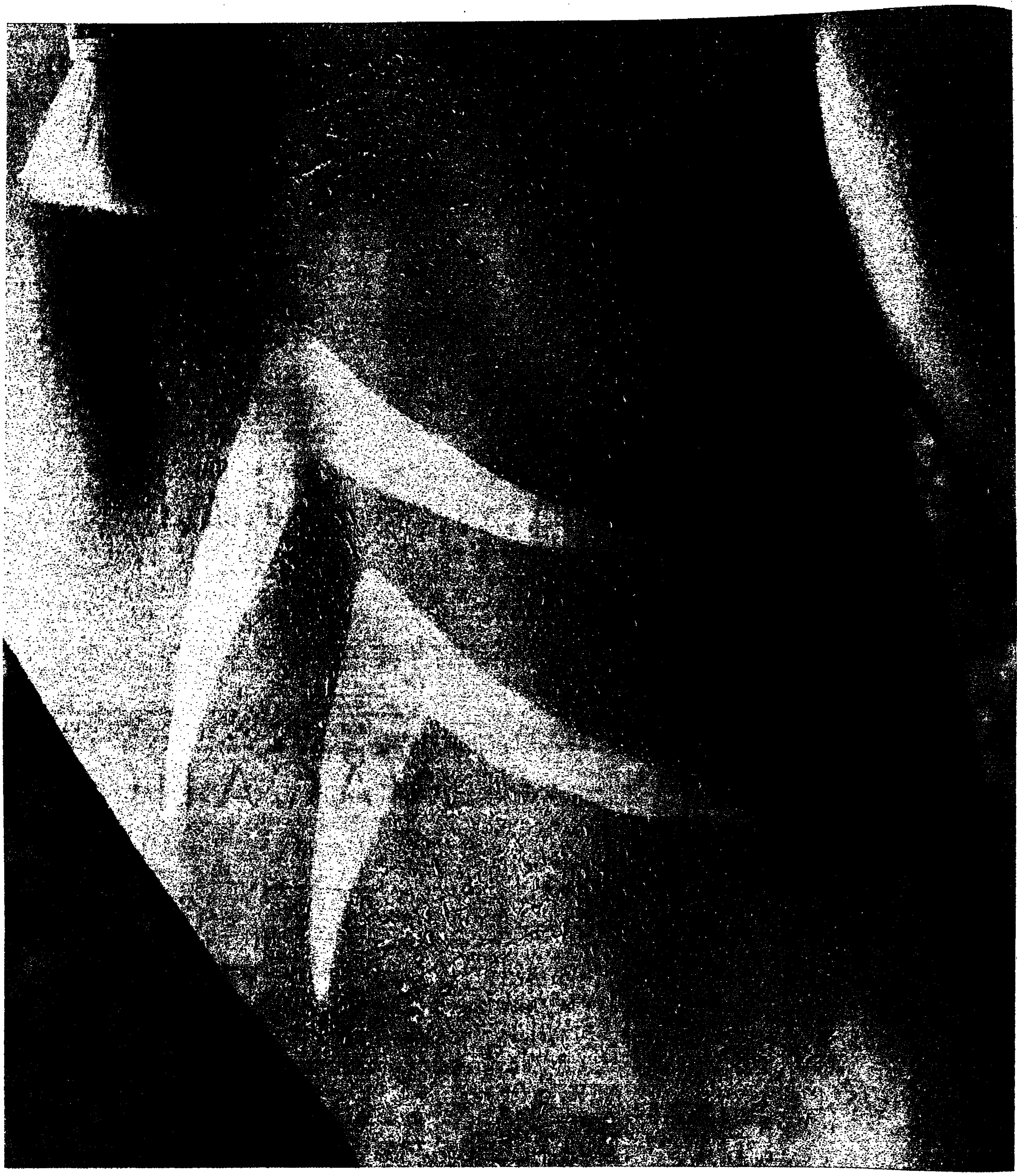

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Paedophiles to be 'marked men' on national register

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

A NATIONAL register of convicted paedophiles is to be established to track them for life and try to prevent them working with children.

The aim is to make child sex offenders "marked men". Under the proposals they will be required to inform the police when they change address and will be banned from working with children formally or informally.

Their names and addresses will be held on a central computer to which the 43 police forces in England and Wales will have access. They would remain on the register until death.

The Government hopes to set up the register under legislation to be introduced in Parliament in the autumn. A Home Office consultation document is to give details of the measures.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, said yesterday that the register would make paedophiles "marked men" and enable the police to keep track of their movements.

Speaking in the wake of the life sentences imposed on Timothy Morss and Brett Tyler for the murder of nine-year-old Daniel Handley, Mr Howard said: "I very much hope it will be possible for us to legislate to bring such a register into effect as soon as possible.

"My intention is to make sure that the police have all this information made available to them so that they are in a position to keep an eye on them and also that prospective employers, where the work will bring them into contact with children, should have access to this information."

Ministers have come under pressure from the police to set up a new system to monitor sex offenders closely. At present the National Criminal Intelligence Service has a list of about 4,500 convicted or suspected paedophiles but it does not hold addresses.

Police have complained that too often child sex abusers are able to disappear into the community on release from prison. Only the addresses immediately before custody and immediately after release have to be given to police.

Officers want the courts to have the power to impose a "residency order" on a convicted paedophile, which would require them to keep police informed of their address. The Home Office is also proposing to give courts the power to impose a child protection order with the aim of stopping paedophiles from obtaining any job in which there would be contact with children. A breach of either order would result in the paedophile being brought back to court for further punishment, possibly imprisonment.

Voluntary organisations, such as the Scouts, and private-sector groups such as nurseries would be able to ask police for checks on prospective employees. At present, local authorities and government agencies have access to the criminal records of applicants for jobs that involve children.

Brian Mackenzie, president of the Police Superindentents' Association, welcomed the Home Secretary's announcement. "This has been a concern of the police for some time because there have been some horrific child murders involving paedophile rings. At the moment all we have is intelligence on paedophiles but it does not allow us to keep track of them."

Mr Mackenzie accepted that the register and court orders could not stop paedophiles approaching children but said that they would be a powerful deterrent.

Liberty, the civil rights pressure group, said it had no objection to a register. "Paramount in all we do is the protection of children from paedophiles." But it added: "Our concern is that access to the register is restricted to those agencies that have a proper need to know."

The group said that once an offence was spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, a person's name should be removed from the register. A sentence of 30 months or more is never spent, however.

ANDRE CAMARA

Robert M. Young, 70, sank his pension into *Caught* after would-be investors rejected its script as too dark

Director's film dream becomes reality

From Dalya Alberge, Arts Correspondent, at the Cannes Film Festival

A 71-YEAR-OLD director is showing a movie at the Cannes Film Festival that has taken him 23 years to make and has used up all his pension.

Robert M. Young, who has won awards at the Cannes and Venice festivals, sent the script for *Caught* to every investor he could think of, without success. Some never replied and others demanded changes that he was not prepared to make.

"They saw something different from what I saw," said Young, whose 16 previous films include *Rich Kids* and *Nothing But A Man*. "I didn't want to compromise."

Last Christmas, when he reached 70 and received his retirement money from the Directors' Guild of America, he decided to risk it all on the film. "My wife has been incredible. She understood that I just had to make it," he said. "Anyway, I will never retire."

Now his decision has paid off. *Caught* has been bought by several big distributors, including some who originally rejected it.

The film tells the story of a young drifter who, taken in to live with the owners of a Jersey City fish store, becomes a member of their family and breaks up their relationship. Several would-be investors found it too dark, but neither Young nor Edward Pomerantz, who wrote the script, gave up hope.

"I believe that truly great scripts have been left on shelves because it seemed too far-out to someone's tastes," Young said, citing *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* as a project that suffered endless rejection before becoming a box-office success.

Another problem for *Caught* was that the investors wanted big-name stars, while Young insisted on two actors who had virtually no experience. Arie Verveen and Steven Schub, a former New York hotel doorman, have since been offered other roles on the strength of their performances in *Caught*.

Both had attended open casting sessions. Verveen spotted a poster advertising the audition in the Actor's Studio in New York, where he worked as a cleaner. "He's dynamite," Young said.

Arts, pages 17, 19

NEWS IN BRIEF

Critic of blood cuts dismissed

A critic of the reorganisation of the national blood transfusion service has been dismissed. Peter Bowell, laboratory manager at the Oxford transfusion centre, had been in the service for 34 years.

As part of his redundancy deal, Mr Bowell agreed to make no public comment but a colleague said the dismissal was a "settling of old scores". Mr Bowell has repeatedly criticised plans to close several centres, including the one at Oxford.

BR prosecuted

British Rail is to be prosecuted by the Health and Safety Executive for alleged poor maintenance after an accident near Wood Street station, east London, in September. Seventeen passengers were treated for shock when one train ran into the back of another.

Murder retrial

The Court of Appeal quashed the conviction of Michael Austin, 40, an American jailed for life by Carlisle Crown Court in February last year for murdering David Wilson, a 47-year-old accountant from Withnell, Lancashire, in 1992, and ordered a retrial.

Mugger jailed

A mugger captured by a police decoy was jailed for 4½ years at Knutsford Crown Court, Cheshire. Stephen McCarthy, 25, tried to rob WPC Lesley Price, 26, while she was disguised as an old woman to trap muggers preying on the elderly at Macclesfield.

Pair trick widow

Two men posing as water board officials duped a 75-year-old widow into letting them into her home at Stechford, Birmingham, and stole £1,220 of jewellery and £1,400 in 20p pieces. The woman, who kept the coins in a wardrobe, was not hurt.

Human race

About 200 runners and riders are expected today for a 22-mile race at Llanwrtyd Wells, Powys, in the latest attempt to win £10,000 from the bookmakers William Hill for the first person to outrun a horse. A relay team can win £2,500 for beating the fastest horse.

Orkney islander charged with Swiss kidnap and robbery

Robb: awaiting extradition

By Carol Midgley

A CROFTER arrested on a remote Scottish island appeared in court in London yesterday accused of kidnap and robbery offences in Switzerland dating back nearly ten years.

Robert McCheyne Robb, 53, from Stronsay, Orkney, appeared at Bow Street Magistrates Court awaiting extradition on charges of conspiracy to kidnap, conspiracy to rob $4 million (£2.5 million) and conspiracy to make unwarranted demands for 15 million Swiss francs (£8 million).

Mr Robb, who lives quietly in the Tamaska area of the island with his wife and daughters aged two years and five weeks, was arrested by detectives and taken to London. The 350 islanders had no idea that Mr Robb, who was released from a ten-year jail sentence imposed in Britain three years ago for false imprisonment, was being sought by Swiss police.

Brian Gibbins, for the prosecution, told the court on behalf of the Swiss Government that Mr Robb was one of three men sought by the Swiss in respect of two matters, the first dating from March 11, 1987. "It is alleged the three defendants broke into the house of a wealthy gentleman in Geneva, tied up all the members of the family, held them in the basement, then demanded a ransom of 15 million Swiss francs.

"In the morning there had been bargaining and it was agreed a ransom would be paid. The gentleman was driven by one of these gentlemen to the bank and he paid a ransom of 310,000 Swiss francs."

Mr Gibbins said the second matter dated back to February 1988 when one of the defendants, not Mr Robb, allegedly made contact with a Greek jeweller when in Geneva and duped staff into believing he had a wealthy Arab client who wanted to buy $4 million of jewellery. "He was taken to a hotel room where it is alleged Mr Robb and the others found the victim and took the jewellery," he added.

Mr Gibbins said Mr Robb's previous conviction was for the false imprisonment of a man in Kensington, southwest London, in March 1988. Mr Robb forced his victim off the road in his car, took him to another vehicle where he was handcuffed, then drove him to an address where he was shackled.

"It was thought he was going to be a victim in respect of blackmail, though that was never realised," Mr Gibbins said. Mr Robb's co-defendants, David Fuleihen, 60, an unemployed Israeli of Paddington, west London, and Amir Al Jarrah, 43, of west London, a Syrian part-time cleaner, had appeared at Bow Street Magistrates Court on Thursday. Mr Fuleihen is charged with conspiracy to rob $4 million and Mr Al Jarrah is charged with conspiracy to make unwarranted demands and conspiracy to kidnap.

Ronald Bartle, the stipendiary magistrate, remanded Mr Robb in custody with the other defendants until May 22. Mr Robb made no application for bail.

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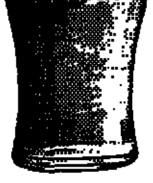

ABBOT ALE
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ROBIN MAYES

A cast-iron historical fact: pupils from Culford School on the bridge rediscovered after a lake was restored on the former estate of Lord Cornwallis. It is thought to have been built from cannon

Forgotten bridge to history found hidden in school grounds

By John Shaw

AN HISTORIC cast-iron bridge has been found in the grounds of a Suffolk school after years hidden behind reeds and undergrowth. The discovery is so important that English Heritage has given it an immediate Grade I listing.

Culford School, near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, was once the country home of Lord Cornwallis, defeated commander of British forces in the American revolution and later Governor-General in Bengal. The 28-metre bridge dating from 1803 is believed to have been made from cannon captured during his time in India.

It is one of Britain's oldest iron bridges, and one of the few to have been left unmodified. John Richardson, headmaster of the co-educational public school, said it had been obscured by 70 years of weeds growing out of accumulated sludge and silt on a mile-long lake: "About four years ago, we formed a committee to look at the whole park and we decided to restore the lake. It was a very ambitious project because we had to remove nearly 200,000 tons of silt. Gradually it became a reality. Parents with connections in the farming world lent us diggers and various machinery. Then we had interest from the Suffolk Wildlife Trust, the National Rivers Authority and the University of East Anglia.

"We reached about halfway and, as we cleared the lake, we uncovered the bridge as well."

The house dates from the 18th century and the 500-acre park was modified by the landscape gardener Humphrey Repton. The bridge is the earliest known example with hollow iron ribs and is believed to be the work of Samuel Wyatt, whose brother James made alterations to Culford Hall in the 1790s.

The headmaster added: "Clive Paine, a local historian, recognised that the chap who designed the ironwork for the house had a brother who designed bridges. Mr Paine went to the Patent Office, and lo and behold there was a design for a bridge the same as ours dated 1804. We got in touch with English Heritage."

Dr Alastair Ward, of English Heritage, said: "It is an exceptionally important find. It is not only one of the first cast-iron bridges but, miraculously, its iron parts have remained unmodified for almost 200 years." The famous example at Ironbridge, Shropshire, has had extensive repairs through its life. The school, which has 650 pupils aged from nursery level to 18, has occupied the Grade II*-listed Culford Hall since the estate was sold in 1935. The park was inspected 10 years ago, but the bridge remained undiscovered. It needs £100,000 to complete the lake project, which has had an educational spin-off. Children did research on flora and fauna along the banks and preserved areas of wildlife interest.

We're all Hancocks at heart says Fry the Samaritan

By Dominic Kennedy, social affairs correspondent

STEPHEN FRY, the actor, comedian and writer, spoke yesterday of the sadness of the clown, admitting that last year he had been close to sharing Tony Hancock's fate by committing suicide. Only the devastation he would have caused to family and friends prevented him taking his life after he abandoned the West End play *Cell Mates*.

Fry was speaking at the Groucho club in Soho, where he had attended the show's first-night party but had not shared his "despair" and appalling sense of failure with friends around him. He had subsequently disappeared.

Launching Samaritans' Week '96, he urged others in low spirits to contact the charity for help. "I have promised that if I feel in such a bad mood again, I will pick up the phone and call them rather than picking up a cross-Channel ferry ticket."

He said: "I regard myself as rich in friends and family. Why does one not ask for help? How can we be so stupid as to ignore the great resource of love and friendship around us?"

Fry said that in his misery he had felt the need to be among strangers. It was then that the Samaritans would have been able to help.

He referred to a survey of public attitudes carried out for the charity which showed that men in general and those under 25 and over 65 were less sympathetic to the suicidal and depressed than were women and the middle-aged.

The British, he said, "can't bear the idea of talking about our feelings, particularly men. They would rather take their trousers down when drunk than take the shield off their heart for a second.

"I have always been cynical about 'the clown with the tears' — this idea that all funny people are melancholic at heart. I used to take great pride in thinking that one could snap out of it, that we aren't all Tony Hancocks."

But the idea turned out to be true, he said. Many actors and musicians had written to sympathise or to thank him because they had felt like he had. "Laughter can help other people, but not necessarily the laughter-giver."

☐ *The Samaritans' 24-hour helpline is 0345-90-90-90.*

Stephen Fry: had sought the comfort of strangers

Boy who lost arm to chimp wins £132,000

By Carol Midgley

MATTHEW McDaid, the ten-year-old boy whose left arm was ripped off by a chimp at a zoo owned by John Aspinall, was awarded £132,000 by the High Court yesterday.

Mr Justice Collins said the accident, in 1989, had been horrific for both Matthew and his parents and had caused the boy "very substantial disability", pain and psychological trauma.

But more than £20,000 of the damages will be swallowed up by legal costs partly incurred by the defendant, Howletts & Port Lympne Estates, which had made a pre-trial settlement offer of £150,000.

Because Matthew's advisers had turned down an offer which was more than the final award, he must pay the defence costs since the date of the offer in April. Yesterday, neither Matthew nor his father John, a printer, and mother Frances were in court to hear Michael De Navarro, QC, for the defence, tell the judge about the £150,000 settlement offer, which he had been unaware of before reaching his decision on damages.

The judge said he hoped Matthew would not suffer through having to pay part of the costs. It had not been the boy's decision to turn down the offer, he said.

Chris Elliott, the boy's solicitor, said he expected Matthew to receive about £110,000, which will be in trust until his 18th birthday. Matthew was visiting Port Lympne Zoo, near Hythe, Kent, just before his third birthday when the chimp, named Bustah, reached through the bars of its cage and seized his arm, biting and pulling it off above the elbow.

Keepers had to use drug darts before they could retrieve the limb, which the animal was using as a weapon to hold them at bay. The boy was flown to hospital by helicopter but the top of his arm was badly mauled and could not be sewn back.

Matthew, of High Point, New Eltham, southeast London, who was ten last Monday, is left with a stump at the shoulder which is too short to make the fitting of an artificial arm possible. He will need at least two more operations and had nightmares until he was six.

His parents have already been awarded £11,000 for trauma after witnessing the attack. Matthew was granted £8,000 for shock.

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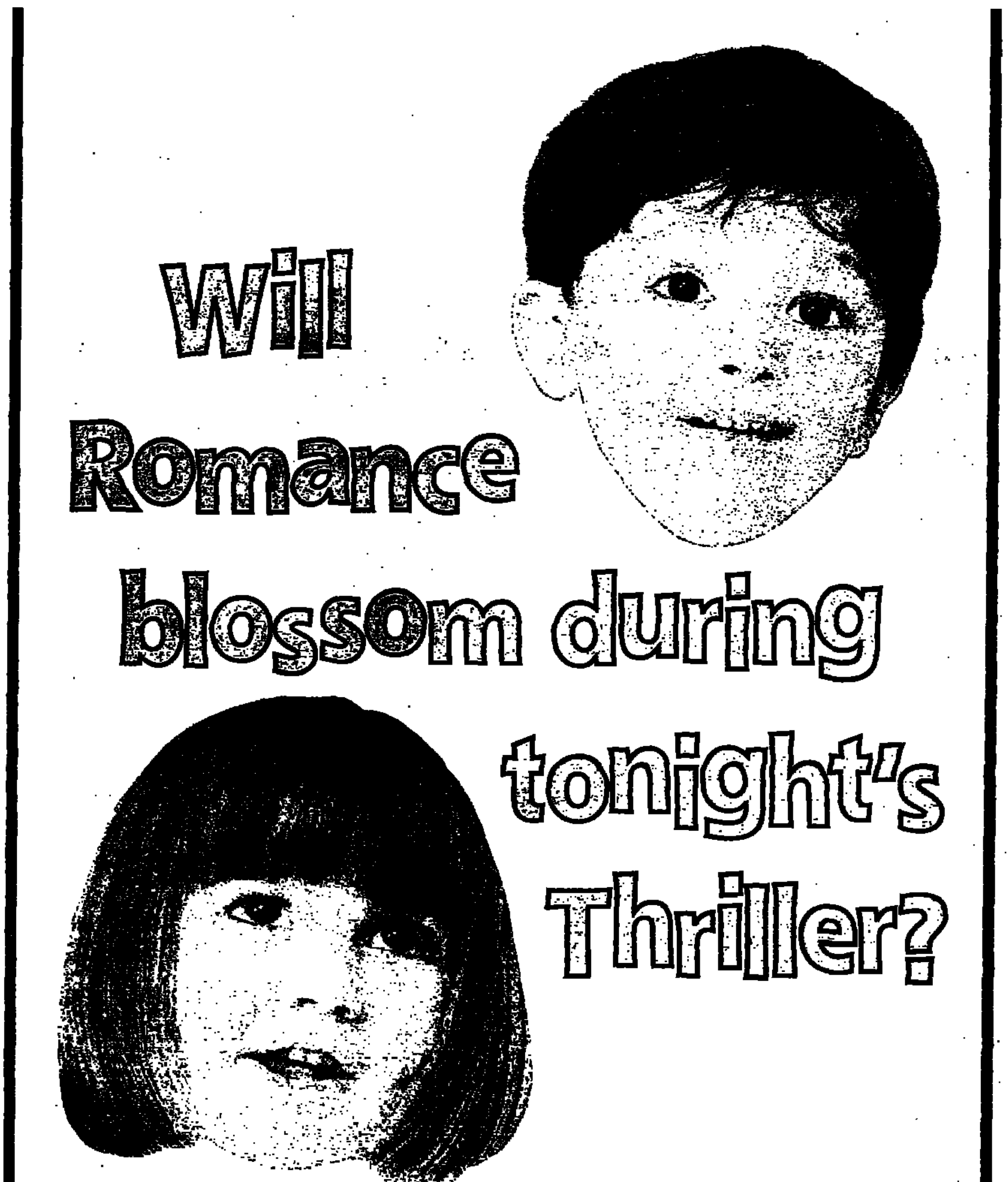
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Yorkshire Water's supply 'deficient and overstretched'

By Paul Wilkinson

THE water shortage that affected Yorkshire so badly last summer was a crisis waiting to happen, the chairman of an inquiry said yesterday. Professor John Uff accused Yorkshire Water of failing to ensure it had enough resources to meet demand from its 4.5 million consumers.

Professor Uff, whose inquiry was funded by the water company, also said it had not taken adequate steps in preceding years to meet a possible shortfall: it had spent only 5 per cent of its capital budget on resources. He suggested it look again at the balance between funding, maintaining the water supply and serving its shareholders.

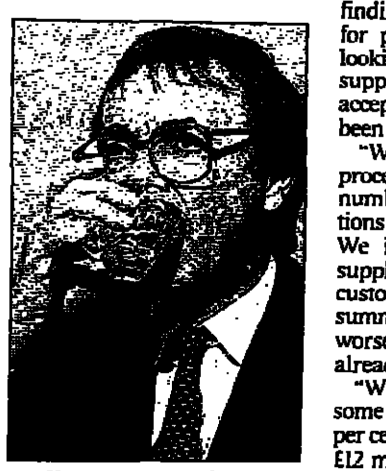
At a press conference to launch his 160-page report, Professor Uff declined to be drawn on who should bear responsibility for the mistakes. However, he suggested the public could draw its own conclusions from the recent early retirement of Trevor Newton, Yorkshire Water's managing director.

In August last year more than 600,000 people in West Yorkshire were close to 24-hour rota cuts as reservoir supplies dwindled in the drought. Health officials warned of serious public health problems, including outbreaks of dysentery and food poisoning, if cuts were introduced. The worst was narrowly averted by a mass tankering operation in which 600 lorries ferried in supplies. It cost the company £47 million.

Profesor Uff, an expert in engineering law at King's College London, said the system for supplying the people of West Yorkshire with water was "overstretched and deficient". The failure could be blamed on Yorkshire Water's unduly optimistic forecast of demand. It indicated it would fall when in fact it was increasing.

"The threat of cut-offs caused great distress and anxiety and demonstrated that cuts in supplies are not acceptable in a modern urban society, except in the most exceptional circumstances. They revealed also a complete absence of any overall emergency plan."

Professor Uff makes a number of recommendations. He suggests the company protects its resources by building a permanent link to the Keilder reservoir in Northumberland. It should drastically reduce the leakage rate: the loss from burst pipes, averaging 37 per cent of supply, is equivalent to domestic consumption.



Uff: inquiry was funded by the water company

He calls for the setting-up of a Public Water Council for Yorkshire to operate for up to a year to improve relations with the public, which hit rock bottom last summer. He suggests Yorkshire Water should pay compensation to local authorities for the expenses they occurred in preparing for the cuts.

Some of the recommendations have been addressed by the company in the months since the drought. It is spending around £200 million to improve its grid system to move water around the county and last month Kevin Bond, the new chairman, announced a scheme to transfer water from Northumberland into Yorkshire by river.

Mr Bond acknowledged that the report was "hard-hitting" and said they would pay close attention to its findings. "We are not looking for public hangings, we are looking forward to ensure the supply is safe in the future. We accept that mistakes have been made in the past.

"We are already in the process of implementing a number of the recommendations made by Professor Uff. We intend having adequate supplies of water for our customers this year, even if the summer and autumn are worse than what we have already experienced.

"We are finding and fixing some 2,500 leaks a month, 33 per cent more than last year. A £12 million scheme is looking at the most effective way of dealing with leaks."

Sticking point: the missing picture of Juan Antonio Pizzi may become a sought-after item in collectors' albums

Football stars shown red card after court rules sticker firm is offside

By Andrew Longmore

MILLIONS of pictures of Euro 96 football stars have had to be withdrawn three weeks before the championship kicks off in a "sticker war" between two rival firms.

UK-based Merlin Publishing tried to beat foreign firm Panini to the £10 million market by launching their collection early, but fell foul of a licensing deal. Merlin, which has sold nearly 100 million packets of its Premier League collection over the past year, had to withdraw more than two million Euro 96 stickers from sale and reshoot the pictures at a cost of nearly £500,000.

The dispute stems from the conflict between the licensing rights for the official Euro 96 logo, which Merlin bought from Licensed Properties International in London, and separate licensing deals made by Panini with national football associations. Under its licence, Panini has the right to sell pictures of players wearing national colours and national emblems.

Merlin, Panini said, had infringed those rights by producing action shots of players in national team strips. Richard Maskell, Panini's managing director, said the decision to publish the collection was "high-handed" and "arrogant". The court upheld the claim and Merlin was forced to use only head-and-shoulders shots of the players.

In the meantime, Panini, whose European Football Championship collection was launched on April 10, has enjoyed a three-week sales lead, though its hopes of having the lucrative market to itself have been disappointed by the speed of Merlin's relaunch. Mark Hillier, managing director of Merlin UK, said the delay might actually have helped the firm. "With the Premier League going down to the last day and the FA Cup final, there has been no focus on Euro 96 until now. Now that's all finished, it's Euro 96 big-time and early signs are that our collection is selling very quickly indeed."

Ironically, one casualty of the sticker war may now become a collector's item. The head of Juan Antonio Pizzi of Spain (sticker number 116) was omitted and the closely cropped action shot used instead is expected to become a prize swap in the playground transfer market.

Anderton recalled, page 48

Coronation Street says sorry by the book

By Alexandra Frean

VIEWERS who bought an "exclusive" *Coronation Street* video, then found it was screened on TV only three months later, are to receive an apology and a free book.

The "goodwill" gesture has been imposed on Granada TV by the Independent Television Commission. The video, featuring characters on a QE2 cruise, carried a sticker saying "only on video", and sold between £12.99 and £14.99 last Christmas. More than 600,000 were sold, with a profit of at least £700,000. An edited version was broadcast in March.

Granada TV said yesterday that nearly 3,300 viewers who had complained to the company or to the ITC would be sent a paperback edition of *The Coronation Street Story*, priced at £14.99, marking the show's 35th anniversary.

Customers who have already complained to their retailers or to the distributors, Warner Vision, will also be entitled to a free copy of the book, providing they contact Granada by June 7.

A Granada spokesman said: "The stickers said 'only on video'. We never said never." The ITC concluded that on-screen promotions did not make clear that a substantial proportion of the video would be televised within months.

Church minister admits he hit his children with a belt

A CHURCH of Scotland minister regularly beat three of his children with a belt, a court was told yesterday. On one occasion the buckle made his five-year-old daughter's foot bleed.

The Rev Kenneth Walker, 38, meted out his own form of discipline when he lived at the manse in Aberlour, Grampian. At Elgin Sheriff Court he admitted three charges of assaulting the children, aged eight, six and five, by striking them on the feet or legs with a belt in a manner likely to cause suffering or injury.

His wife had been so concerned that she took the children to their GP, who referred them to a consultant paediatrician. Unusually, the sheriff lifted reporting restrictions, permitting the children to be identified.

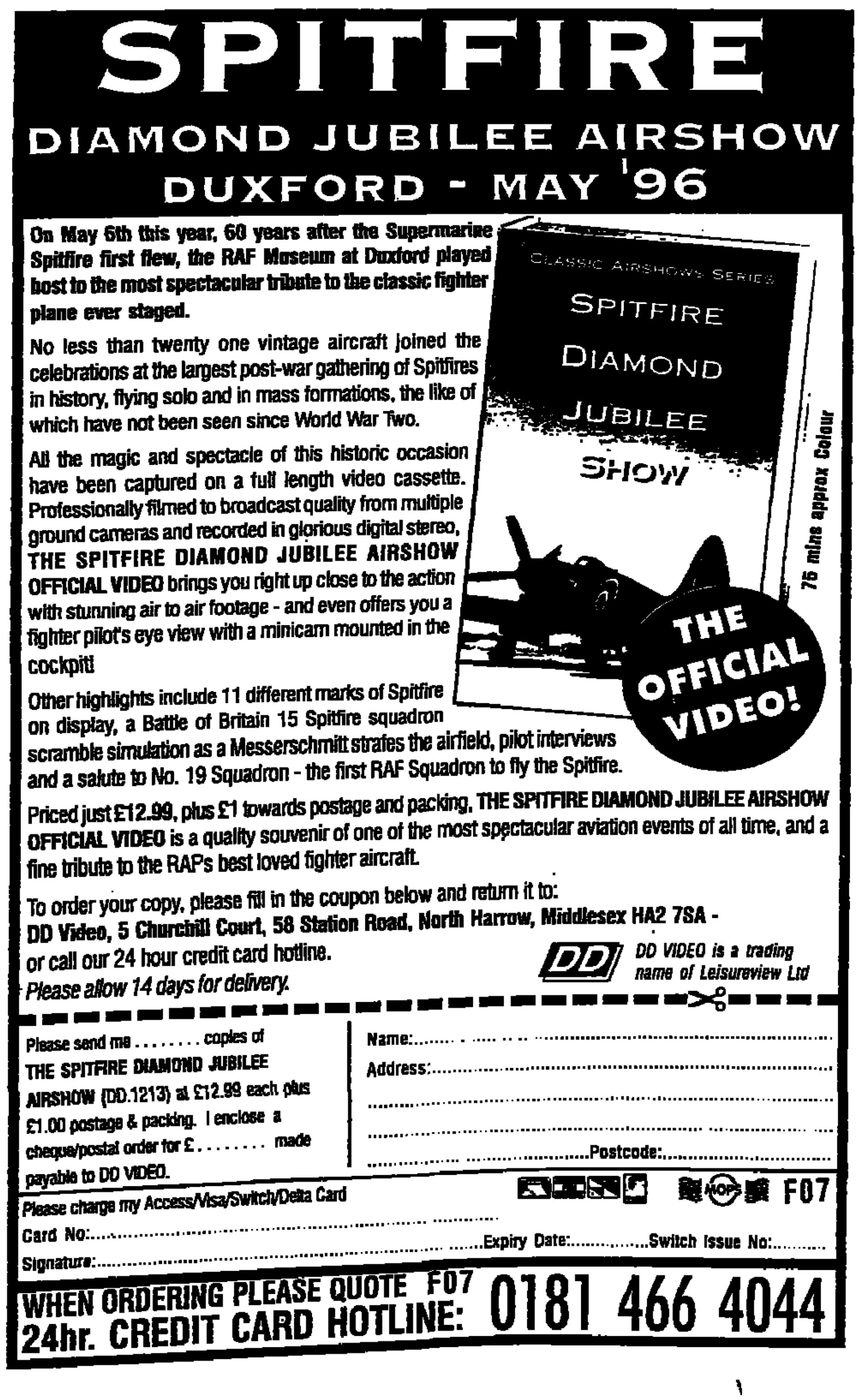
Walker, who now lives in Arbroath, away from the family, has offered to give up his post. Procurator Fiscal James Mackay told the court that Walker was striking the three children with the belt between last October and January.

The paediatrician said the children bore no signs of anything more severe than might be expected of children who had been playing. However, she was concerned about the injury to the sole of the five-year-old's foot.

While being interviewed by the paediatrician, one of the girls had said "daddy was always threatening them with the belt", Mr Mackay said. "This goes beyond mere chastisement: it concerned the mother of the children, their family practitioner and a paediatriac consultant."

Lindsay Wood, for the defence, said the family had begun to have difficulties when their fourth child was born two years ago and was found to be suffering from Down's syndrome. In 1994 Walker approached Grampian regional council seeking help for the family. He had had a depressive illness and had spent time in hospital. Mr Wood said Walker was "full of contrition" and had belted the children as a last resort.

Sheriff Noel McPartlin ordered psychiatric and social inquiry reports and a psychological assessment. Sentence was deferred until June 13.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How heavenly music orchestrates spiritual harmony

Credo

Brian Mountford

The debate over the hymn *Jerusalem* reflects the importance of music and musical tradition in Christian worship. Music is acknowledged to make us feel more spiritually whole — closer to God. But how this comes about is not so easily understood.

Music's exploration of dissonance and harmony ties in with a basic insight about God — namely, that He brings order out of chaos. In the Gospels one of the sure signs that the messianic age has come is that the blind receive their sight, the deaf hear, and the lame walk. Christ, the healer, integrates the disintegrated lives of people such as the madman who lived among the tombs. Thus God is found in the restoration of order and the resolution of dissonance — physical, spiritual and emotional.

In Peter Shaffer's play *Amadeus*, the composer Antonio Salieri fears that his rival, Mozart, has a direct line to God. Many others have heard the voice of God in music, including theologians such as the Protestant Karl Barth, and the Roman Catholic Hans Kung. Einstein, hearing Yehudi Menuhin play Beethoven, said: "Now I know there is a God in heaven."

The primitive bushman of the Kalahari used the bow with which he hunted by day to make music by night; thus the essential tool of his *survival* was also the source of his *music*. He concluded that music was as vital as water, food and fire and, I would add, religion.

Mozart seemed to have had an intuitive mastery of form, evident in the way his music creates the brilliantly unexpected, while sounding perfectly natural, as if it were meant to be. Hence, perhaps, the sense that God is revealed, because God is original, unexpected, yet perfect in being.

There is a link here too between music and mathematics, not only because music is basically the physics of how sound frequencies inter-relate, but in that many mathematicians have noticed that the more elegant the shape or "form" of their theory, the more likely it is to be true. This has persuaded some that there is mathematical truth "out there", and therefore to see a common language between science and theology.

Then there is the way that music affects the emotions, whether through the rhythm of a rock concert, or the moods of Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony. But how? Have we, for example, learnt to associate minor keys with sadness, or is emotion intrinsic to the music? One explanation is that dissonance creates a certain tension and anxiety which can only be released by harmonic resolution, and that this is fundamental to the psychology of musical experience.

Mozart can express light and dark, joy and sorrow, life and death, so that the light transcends the dark and triumphs over it. This is evident in a work such as his *Requiem*, but also in music with no overt religious intent.

Then there is the role of the player. A live performance nearly always has more charisma than a recording. In his poem *The Musician*, R.S. Thomas compares the effort of the violinist Fritz Kreisler, who "so beautifully suffered/For each of us upon his instrument", with the Crucifixion. What we admire in the discipline and self-giving of the musician connects with the way in which God's love is expressed through the suffering of Christ — and that spiritual experience is all the more powerful for being discovered and not taught.

☐ *The Rev Brian Mountford is vicar of the University Church, Oxford.*

Priest prays she has stomach for the Navy

By Robin Young

THE woman chosen to be the first female Anglican chaplain in the Royal Navy admitted yesterday that she was susceptible to sea sickness, but said it was "all part of the challenge".

The Rev Sally Theakston, 33, at present senior curate in the parish of Putney, southwest London, says farewell to her congregation at All Saints' Church tomorrow and will take up her post as a naval chaplain on June 3. She will be the first woman Anglican to have a chaplaincy in the Armed Forces.

"The only previous connection I have had with the Navy is that the minister in my previous parish had formerly been a naval officer and when I came to Putney I became chaplain to the Sea Cadets," Ms Theakston said.

She was encouraged to apply for the naval chaplaincy by two lay readers at All Saints', Commander Graham Shaw, a retired naval officer, and his wife, Kathleen, formerly a Wren. "Through their daughter-in-law, Surgeon-Lieutenant Clare Shaw, they arranged for me to spend five days on *HMS Cumberland*, returning from Gibraltar to Devonport after duty in the Adriatic stopping gun-running to Bosnia."

Ms Theakston spent three days with the Admiralty interview board, "taking all the tests a naval officer would have to take, from academic written exams to leadership exercises involving complex problems like bridge building.

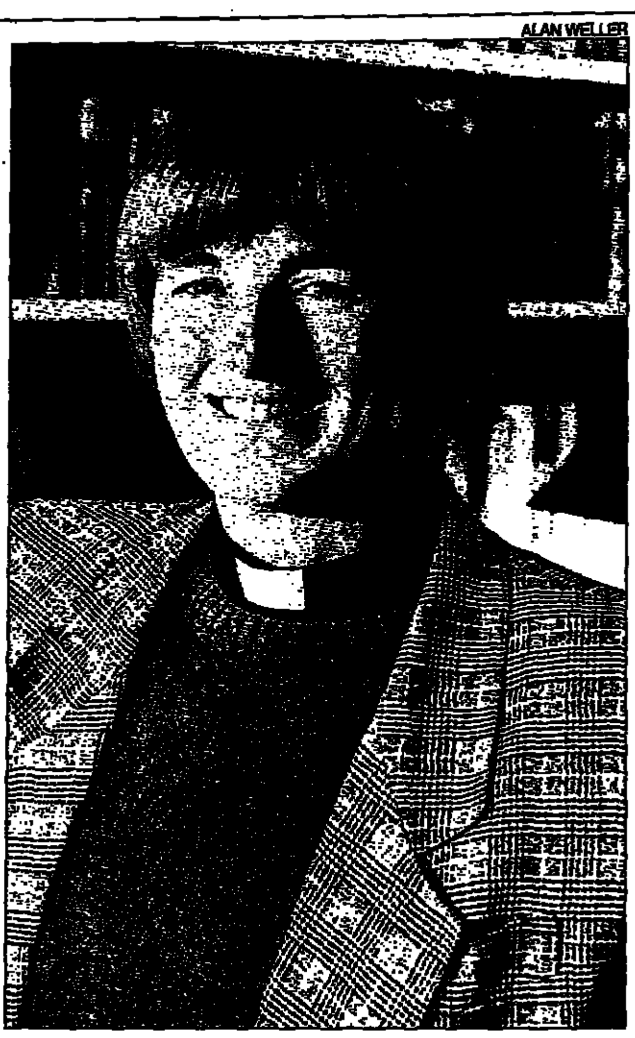
"I am impressed throughout with the Navy. All the people I have met have been friendly and encouraging. Though some may have different views about the desirability of women as priests or women at sea, I have had seven years in a church that was divided over ordination of women but has now come more fully to accept it. I am sure that they will in the Navy, too."

Ms Theakston will spend her first six months in the Navy at *HMS Sultan*, a marine engineering shore establishment near Gosport, Hampshire. Then she will go to Dartmouth for a training course in "fire-fighting, first aid and all the other things one has to know aboard ship. Part of the attraction of the Navy was that it offers such a variety of establishments one might work in."

Ms Theakston was ordained a deacon in 1989 and was one of the first women priests ordained in Southwark diocese in 1994. Much of her work in Putney has involved reviving All Saints', a Victorian church designed by G.E. Street which has 40 stained glass windows by William Morris.

The vicar, the Rev Dr Jonathan Draper, said: "It is largely due to her assiduous hard work that we have reclaimed All Saints' from being almost moribund to having congregations of up to 600 and a junior choir 40-strong.

"Sally is boldly going where no woman has gone before. But she is such an able and outgoing person that I am sure she will flourish."


ALAN WELLER

The Rev Sally Theakston, who is to be the first female Anglican chaplain in the Armed Forces

Methodists fear Toronto blessing may be a curse

By Ruth Gledhill, religion correspondent

ELEMENTS of the so-called "Toronto blessing", where born-again Christians bark, laugh, cry and collapse in convulsions, might not be the work of the Holy Spirit and could in fact be the opposite, says a Methodist Church report published today.

It adds that the bizarre charismatic phenomena that originated in Toronto, Canada, and have swept through Britain's evangelical churches in recent months, could also be symptoms of a psychiatric disorder known as dissociation. The report, to be debated at the Methodist Church's annual conference next month, urges extreme caution.

It raises concerns about the raucous laughter, growling, barking, other animal sounds and drunken-style behaviour such as "stiff jerking" and falling down that takes place when a congregation is gripped by the blessing.

The report notes that the phenomena are not always spontaneous and congregations are often prepared in advance by their ministers or leaders. Such preparation can involve carpets and catchers provided to cushion those who fall backwards. The report says that this "need not deny the validity of the experience", but there are few scriptural precedents.

It argues that "there are serious theological and pastoral issues that cannot be brushed aside". Of most concern to the Methodist faith and order committee, which examined nearly 300 submissions, were the convulsions experienced at some services.

The report says: "Convulsions, sometimes claimed as a sign of God's blessing, are in fact quite the opposite. Jesus in His ministry delivered people from such things. He did not want them to glory in them."

The Toronto blessing was first reported in January 1994 at a meeting of the Toronto airport Vineyard Church, where more than 300,000 Christians have since travelled on pilgrimage. Often, on their return, the pilgrims' home congregations begin falling down, weeping, laughing and barking in a ripple effect that has now spread worldwide.

Those involved refer to the blessing as a "refreshing" or renewal, but there is a growing belief in evangelical circles that it may herald a revival as the millennium approaches. Places where the blessing is common in this country include a leading centre of Church of England evangelism, Holy Trinity Brompton in Knightsbridge, southwest London. It is also being manifested regularly in the Queen's Road Baptist Church, Wimbledon, and the Sunderland Christian Centre. Many psychiatrists believe the blessing is a form of dissociation, where people with a personality split act out of character. These people believe their bizarre actions are God's work, whereas psychiatrists hold that they are the product of the split or dissociated side of their personality. Dissociation is common in ecstatic religions. The whirling dervishes of Muslim cultures are cited in the Methodist report as an example. Most of the submissions, which came from ministers and lay people, supported the blessing. But some expressed serious concern and told the Methodist committee that the Toronto blessing was demonic or more related to hypnosis than the Holy Spirit.

One group of church stewards said: "The excitement, emotion and general lack of control and self-discipline caused us a great deal of concern." Worshippers who objected reported: "It was stated that this was the way the church was going and if you didn't agree you might as well leave. There was a lot of heartache."

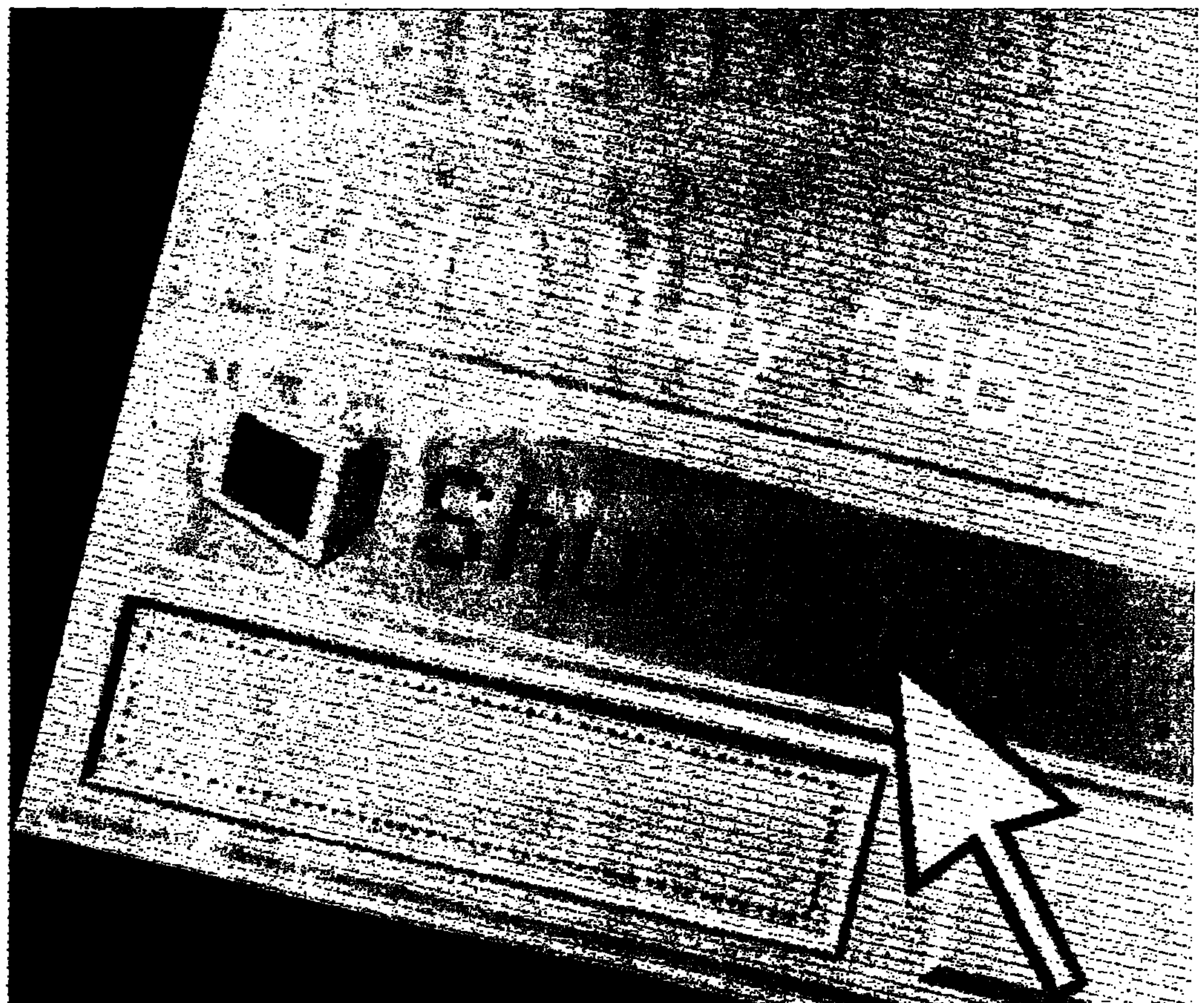
The report says the "fruit of the spirit" is evident in love, especially love for fellow Christians and Christian holiness. "If there has been genuine growth and a closer walk with Christ as a result of the Toronto blessing, then we can be thankful that God is able to bring good out of all situations." But it adds: "In the biblical tradition the experience of prophecy has always been accompanied by a recognition of the danger of false prophecy and the need for discernment."

The report points out that the Toronto airport church where it all began has left its mother fellowship, the association of Vineyard churches, after concern was expressed about "exotic practices that are extra-biblical".

Last week, a woman left her church with a group of supporters and set up her own church at home because she refused to "snort like a pig". She said she had been denied confirmation unless she went on a course where such manifestations took place.

> ‘Prophecy has always been accompanied by a recognition of the danger of false prophecy’

At Your Service, Weekend, page 17



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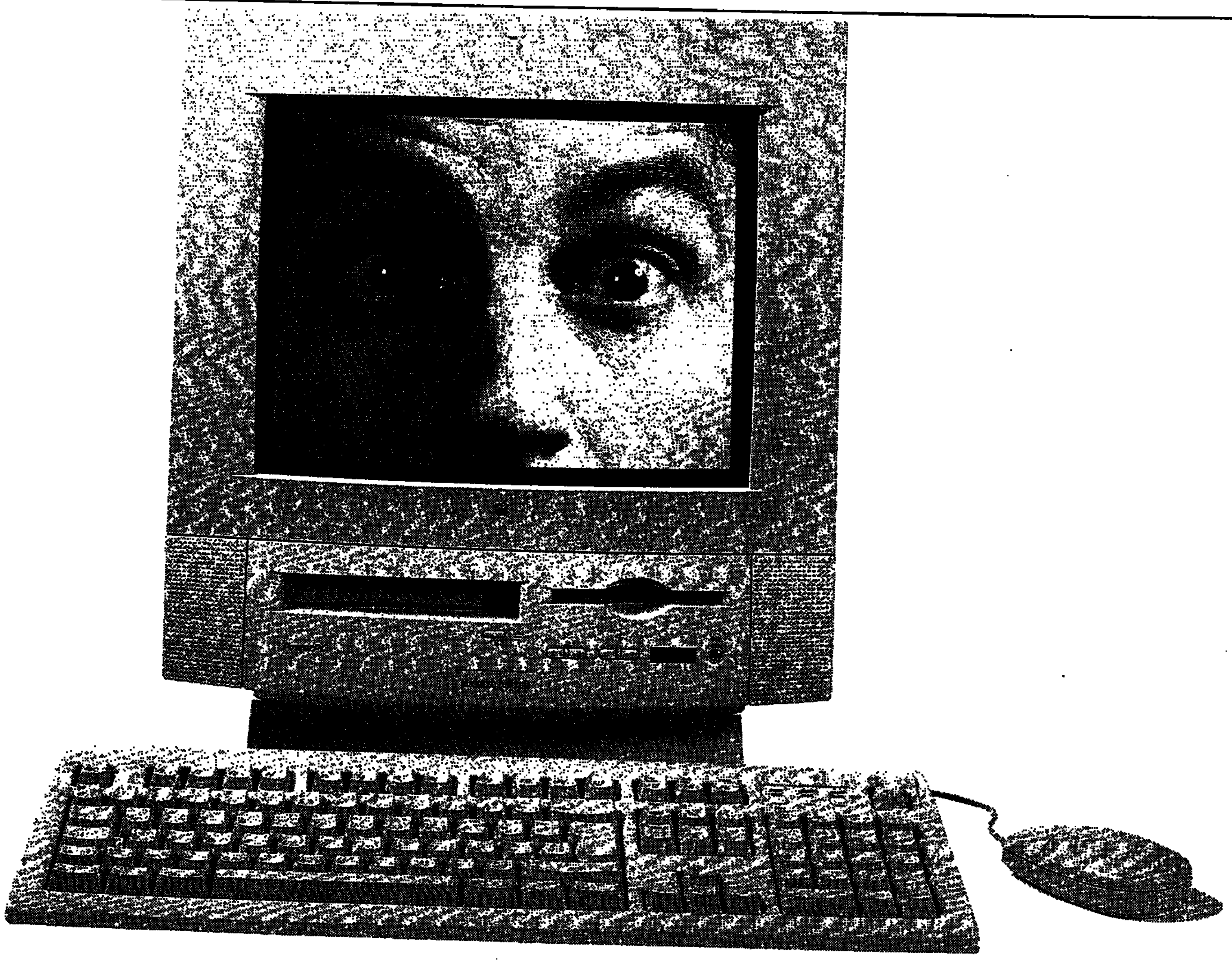

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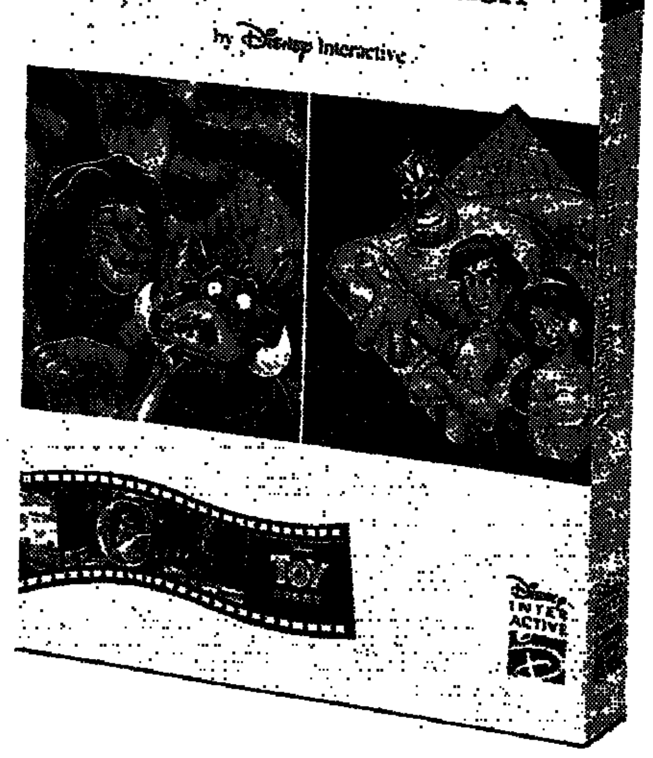

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Freed Britons weep at Jakarta funeral of fellow hostage

From Andrew Drummond in Jakarta

FOUR British graduates wept for an Indonesian colleague yesterday as he was buried in a cemetery in the eastern suburbs of Jakarta.

While the Indonesian Government provided a military guard of honour and fired a one-volley salute to a "fallen comrade", Cambridge students Anna McIvor, Annette van der Kolk, Daniel Start and William Oates, rescued after four months of captivity in the jungles of Irian Jaya, seemed to distance themselves from the army presence.

Mr Start, 21, held the hand of Miss van der Kolk as the congregation gathered round the coffin, draped with an Indonesian flag, to sing a local Christian hymn, *All his life He gave himself to God*.

Martha Klein, the Dutch hostage who was also rescued in the military operation, collapsed on the ground in sobs before being brought to her feet and comforted by Mark van der Wal, a fellow Dutch hostage.

The British and Dutch hostages were then taken away to be looked after by their respective embassies. They will be debriefed by both embassy staff and Red Cross officials before returning home.

Henri Fournier, Indonesian representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross, said after meeting the four released Britons and their two Dutch colleagues: "The hostages and their captors lived and survived together for several months, just like one family. They feel as if they have lost their brothers. They grieve equally for all who died, both the rebels and their scientific colleagues."

Mr Start, who like his colleagues was given Indonesian batik shirts for the funeral, stopped briefly to address journalists after being released from the Gatot Subroto military hospital. He said: "I am too traumatised by what has happened. I do not think I am in the right frame of mind to speak now. We are all very distressed by the deaths of our friends."

They still looked dazed and weak during the funeral, which took place in the heat of the afternoon. Medical checks have revealed that the hostages have lost between 1.5 and 2.5 stones each, were suffering from insomnia, respiratory tract and skin infections.

The funeral for Navy Panekanan, 29, was particularly distressing for Miss McIvor as she saw the attack on Navy and his fellow victim, Yoshias Lasamahu.

Mr Panekanan, 29, of the Jakarta School of Biological Sciences, had been an assistant to the Cambridge University research team studying the wildlife of Lorentz nature reserve in Irian Jaya when the group was seized by the rebels in January.

Mr Panekanan and his colleague were killed by a combination of blows from a machete and poisoned arrows as the Free Papua Movement rebels fled from Indonesian special forces.

His girlfriend, Adinda Saraswati, 25, another of the hostages seized on January 8, attended the funeral in a wheelchair with her right foot bandaged. She was lifted by friends to the open coffin to kiss Mr Panekanan farewell and place a ring on his finger before he was lowered into the grave. They had been due to marry at the end of the expedition.

Miss Saraswati said on state television that her captors had killed her fiancé in front of her as troops closed in.

She said a kidnapper had attacked Mr Panekanan with a machete on Wednesday, as Indonesian Special Forces launched a rescue, and described what happened next.

"I saw he started to hit Navy with the machete and I could only scream 'Why, why' and 'Navy, Navy'," she said. "Navy said, 'It's not my fault.' Then he said 'Praise the Lord' and fell to the ground. I kept screaming and the killer had his eye on me. Then he saw Markus [another hostage] and then Markus was beaten by many of them."

At the end of the service a lone bugler played a lament, after which relatives and friends laid wreaths on the grave, marked by a simple wooden cross with Navy's name on it.

Later Mr Oates thanked the army for rescuing them. He said: "They brought me some fried rice and I just ate and ate and ate as I had eaten nothing but forest fruits for the last week."

Miss McIvor said that she was grateful to the Indonesian Army and was relieved to be free. Miss Saraswati said: "All the foreigners, except Anna had been taken on ahead. The kidnappers were behind us when they suddenly turned on Navy and Yoshias. I think they knew that the army was very close and wanted to kill all the Indonesians." She ran away screaming and was soon plucked to safety by the army.

It is unlikely that the freed hostages will go into detail about what happened in those last few hours in the jungle — at least not until their departure from Indonesia. They had told relatives they were sympathetic to the rebels' independence cause, and Mr Fournier said yesterday: "They had hoped for an entirely different outcome."

It may have appeared to them that the dice were loaded against their captors, who were armed apparently only with spears and bows and arrows and who put up little resistance against special forces armed with automatic weapons.

Leading article, page 21

Martha Klein, right, the Dutch hostage rescued by Indonesian troops, bids farewell to a fellow hostage, Yualita Tanasale

MONDAY IN THE TIMES

WIN TICKETS TO ENGLAND v INDIA

Five pairs of tickets to the first one-day game at the Oval to be won

Plus, in 12 pages of sport, Oliver Holt at the Monaco Grand Prix

DIANA: THE VERDICT

What women think of the Princess of Wales

Mr Leung after undergoing surgery to reattach his arm

Hong Kong triads blamed for knife attack on publisher

From Jonathan Mirsky in Hong Kong

THE attack this week on Leung Tin-wai, the prominent Hong Kong publisher whose arm was severed by his assailants, has aroused horror and outrage throughout the colony. A £347,000 reward has been offered for information leading to the attackers' arrest.

Chris Patten, the Governor, Anson Chan, the Chief Secretary, and the Police Commissioner joined in condemnation of the attack, which has dominated the news here. What makes the event especially terrifying is the probable involvement of the triads, the colony's pervasive secret societies.

Mr Leung, 55, is in a serious condition and under police guard in Pamela Youde Hospital, where it took several teams of surgeons using micro-surgery 18 hours to sew back his left forearm. It had been hacked off by two well-dressed men who asked for an appointment with Mr Leung late on Wednesday.

He invited them into an interview room of *Weekly Surprise*, his magazine which was launched yesterday, then staff heard screams. The two had drawn knives with 18in blades from their trouser legs and were attacking him. As he raised his arm to defend himself, they cut it off. A security guard who entered the room was stabbed.

Police Commissioner Eddie Hui has expressed "deepest concern" at the attack, and said that a special task force has been set up to find the assailants. It is assumed one of the triads — mafia-style criminal syndicates — ordered the attack. Mr Leung's magazine carried articles yesterday referring to criminal gangs and, in one on triad activity in a Macau prison, named names.

One of Mr Leung's editors speculated yesterday that this article may have prompted the attack. Naming triad members violates one of Hong Kong's publishing taboos. It is also rumoured that Mr Leung refused to pay a triad "protection" demand.

The triads — with historic links reaching back to the secret societies across the border, some centuries old — are well established in Hong Kong. Originally concerned with prostitution, gambling and drugs, they have branched out into more mundane pursuits such as airport cargo loading, hotel and restaurant supplies, laundry and rubbish removal, and newspaper and magazine distribution.

This last activity may explain why several newsagents and kiosk operators in central Hong Kong yesterday were nervous about stocking Mr Leung's publication, although it was sold out within an hour.

Every significant Hong Kong publisher or editor signed a statement run in most papers yesterday voicing their anger. Senior journalists and publishers together offered a reward of HK$4 million (£347,000) for the attackers' capture.

Tomorrow journalists will march through central Hong Kong in protest at the attack.

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EXECUTIVE VOICE 26

Richard Giordano on a test of loyalty for Sid

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

SATURDAY MAY 18 1996

Lloyd's barred from seizing names' awards

By Sarah Bagnall

A HIGH COURT judge yesterday barred Lloyd's of London from seizing hundreds of millions of pounds worth of court awards made to litigating names.

Alan Porter, chairman of the Devonshire Names Action Group, said: "The judgment has exposed Lloyd's practice of running roughshod over legal rights when it suits them. They are bully boys and this decision has given them a well-deserved rap on the knuckles."

Names' representatives welcomed the ruling, with some arguing that it could force Lloyd's to bolster its settlement offer to the hardest hit names. Others drew attention to an affidavit by David Rowland, chairman, in which he said that the market's radical reconstruction and renewal plan (R&R) could founder if Lloyd's lost the hearing.

In the affidavit, Mr Rowland said: "The destination of names's litigation recoveries is critical to the completion of R&R." He added that if Lloyd's failed to win the case then "potentially it could be fatal to R&R".

However, yesterday he said that since making the affidavit in March names' financial predicament had improved by a £2.1 billion sweetener and, therefore, his remarks were no longer applicable. Lloyd's said it was disappointed with the ruling by Sir Richard Scott, the Vice-Chancellor, and that it intended to appeal. Several action group chairmen said that the ruling had no significant implications for R&R. John Mays, chairman of the Merrett Names Action Group, said: "I don't think this is going to make a difference to R&R. The train has left the station and everything that is going to be on board is there."

However, Christopher Stockwell, chairman of the Lloyd's Names Association Working Party, said: "Lloyd's will now have to make significant improvements to the offer to help the hardest hit. They need cash and if Lloyd's wants these names to participate in the offer they will have to offer them cash."

The hearing centred on the legality of changes made in March 1995 to names' premium trust deeds, the legal terms governing an underwriting member's Lloyd's account. The amendments meant Lloyd's could receive litigation recoveries directly from the courts.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, was hustled into Nottingham Trent University by police amid violent protests yesterday. Around 200 students had gathered outside a building where Mr Clarke received an honorary degree to reward his contribution to Nottingham

PSBR rises, page 26

BA set to link with American Airlines

From Richard Thomson in New York

BRITISH AIRWAYS is believed to be near agreement with American Airlines, the largest US carrier, on a link-up that would create the most powerful combination in the industry, particularly on lucrative transatlantic routes.

The agreement would include plans for "code sharing" and co-operative marketing that would link the computer ticketing systems of the two airlines, a move that would effectively integrate their huge flight networks. A deal may be announced on Monday, when BA unveils its financial results, though it make take longer to agree.

British and US government negotiators are due to meet on Monday to discuss airline alliances as part of wider talks about airline deregulation between the two countries.

An alliance with American would seriously disrupt BA's relationship with USAir, in which it holds a 25 per cent stake. Robert Ayling, BA chief executive, is due to attend a USAir board meeting on Tuesday, when he may say that BA is planning to sell its stake. The investment has not been a success for BA, which has written it down by $250 million, half its original value.

WEEKEND MONEY

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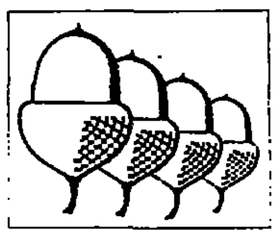
How income tax cuts left pensioners worse off



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Why we should fear the new US-style banking services

Gas chief's protest call

RICHARD GIORDANO, the chairman of British Gas, has written to its 1.7 million shareholders calling for protests against price-control proposals by Ofgas, the industry regulator. In the letters, posted second class at a cost of £400,000, he urges investors to protest directly to Clare Spottiswoode.

Executive Voice, page 26

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3789.6	(+36.0)
Yield	3.94%	
FT-SE A All share	1901.77	(+14.78)
Nikkei	21916.60	(–230.61)
New York:		
Dow Jones	5676.42	(+41.37)*
S&P Composite	668.02	(+3.17)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5¼%*	(5¼%)
Long Bond	89⅞*	(88¹⁵⁄₃₂)
Yield	6.85%*	(6.92%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6¹⁄₁₆%	(6¹⁄₁₆%)
Liffe long gilt future (Jun)	106⅞	(106⁷⁄₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5153*	(1.5145)
London:		
$	1.5157	(1.5117)
DM	2.3132	(2.3231)
FFr	7.8341	(7.8851)
SFr	1.8961	(1.9028)
Yen	161.63	(161.23)
£ Index	84.4	(84.5)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5275*	(1.5318)
FFr	5.1780*	(5.1860)
SFr	1.2542*	(1.2551)
Yen	106.53*	(106.63)
$ Index	96.8	(97.0)

Tokyo close Yen 106.60

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Aug)	$17.30	(unq)

GOLD

London close	$392.15	($391.95)

* denotes midday trading price

Spending blow

Public borrowing went adrift in the first month of the new tax year as government spending overran. In recent months, the main concern has been a hole in tax revenue. The public sector borrowing requirement was £3.3 billion in April.

Page 26

Record £1bn power payout stuns City

By George Sivell

NATIONAL POWER has confirmed plans to pay £1.18 billion of special dividends to shareholders and promised to consider buying back more shares or making further special dividend payments.

In addition to a huge increase in the ordinary dividend, National Power shareholders will receive almost £1.5 billion in payouts for the year, a British corporate record. The special dividend is conditional on the £1.7 billion sale of power stations to Hanson going ahead by July 9.

Shares in National Power, the largest of the privatised electricity generators, soared 31p to close at 547p, as the company implied that ordinary dividends would be increased further by saying that it would consider reducing the amount of cover to the dividends provided by earnings.

Yesterday's announcement was rushed out ahead of Monday's planned release. The special dividend follows an attempt by the Southern Company of America to make a bid for National Power, which was foiled by the Government pledge to maintain its controlling golden share. National Power was also prevented from bidding £2.5 billion for Southern, the UK regional electricity company.

The City was taken aback by the size of National Power's special dividend, which, at £1 a share, compared with the 60p or so expected. The 49 per cent increase in the ordinary total dividend, to 23p a share, was also a surprise. Earnings rose 19 per cent, to 51.9p a share, leaving dividend cover down to 2.3 from a conservative 3.0 a year ago. Debts stand at £376 million, or just 14 per cent of shareholders' funds, although they will rise after the special dividend is paid.

Analysts said the pre-tax profits of £806 million, up 14 per cent, were well ahead of forecasts of £760 million. Forecasts of National Power profits are to be increased to almost £900 million from £845 million for the current year.

Earlier this week, PowerGen, the other large privatised generator, announced a 40 per cent dividend increase and a £400 million share buy-back after its bid for Midlands Electricity was blocked.

Keith Henry, chief executive of National Power, said: "We are committed to delivering continuing real dividend growth and consider further reductions in dividend cover will be appropriate." He added that it had also been decided it would be in shareholders' interests to run with much higher gearing.

John Baker, the chairman, said he believed "great opportunities to grow earnings lie overseas". The company is active in Pakistan and America and is pursuing investments in Turkey, China and India.

Tempus, page 28

Facia chiefs face disqualification

By Jason Nissé

IAN LANG, President of the Board of Trade, has started proceedings to have Stephen Hinchliffe, the flamboyant businessman, and Christopher Harrison, his partner in the Facia retail chain, disqualified as directors.

Mr Lang's action, which may see the duo banned from holding office for up to 15 years, follows a liquidator's report into the collapse two years ago of Boxgrey, a sports pitch-maker known formerly as En-tout-cas. Nearly 600 creditors and 130 staff lost money in the collapse.

Last night, Mr Hinchliffe said: "I have been able, even within the limited time available, to submit a detailed dossier which substantially undermines all the allegations which have been made ... I am confident that the proceedings will be dismissed."

This is not the only potential legal action facing Mr Hinchliffe and Mr Harrison, who have built Facia into a 1000-strong retail chain in just two years. Companies House has given them until July 1 to file accounts for Facia, which are six months late. They also face possible action for filing accounts late at four other companies they control, Red or Dead, Chase Montagu, Mayfair Trunks and Contessa Ladieswear. Chase Montagu is one of Mr Hinchliffe's and Mr Harrison's main investment companies.

Hinchliffe: defence dossier

OFT forces Rock to drop penalty

By Robert Miller

NORTHERN ROCK, the eighth-largest building society and planning to become a £1 billion bank next year, has stopped charging retrospective early redemption penalties worth up to three months' interest on certain mortgage deals after intervention by the Office of Fair Trading.

A statement issued by the OFT yesterday said that Northern Rock, whose one million qualifying members stand to gain up to £1,000 worth of free shares when the society converts to stock-market status next year, had assured the OFT that it will remove the unfair term in its home-loans contracts that enabled it to impose the penalty.

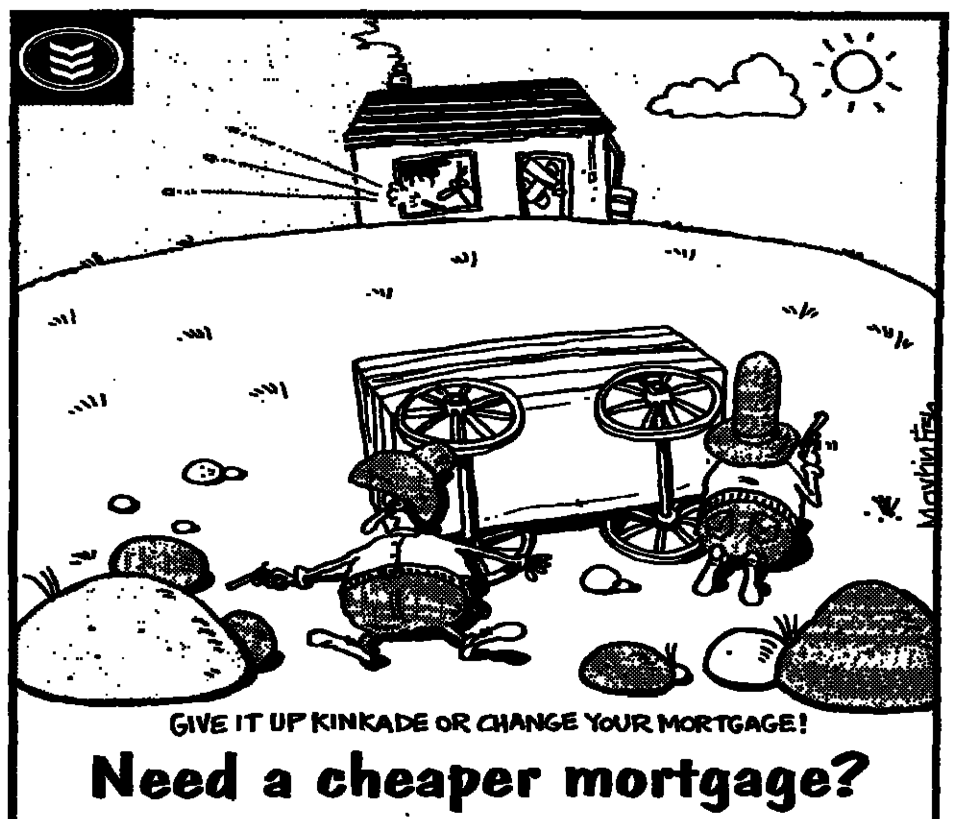
Up to 5,000 Northern Rock borrowers had to pay the additional penalty, known as the standard early redemption charge (Serc), on loans which were taken out before December 31 and then redeemed early.

Adam Applegarth, executive director of Northern Rock, said yesterday: "It is never nice to be criticised. Serc was not a universally popular move, but I have no doubt that the protection of our loyal borrowers from subsidising mortgage 'churners' was the right thing to do."

Northern Rock has recently been advertising cashback mortgage deals worth up to £9,000 in a national television campaign.

John Bridgeman, Director-General of Fair Trading, said: "This is a welcome change of heart by Northern Rock. Standard contract terms which enable suppliers to vary contracts unilaterally in this way are unfair and not acceptable under current regulations."

Brian Murphy, the Building Societies Ombudsman, whose office was innundated with hundreds of complaints after the society imposed the redemption penalty last July, said: "Building societies must undertake to make it plainer to borrowers what all the terms and conditions of their particular plans mean at the very outset."



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Shift to consumer is ultimate test of loyalty for Sid

EXECUTIVE VOICE

Richard Giordano

Sid, the legendary small shareholder, was born ten years ago. Created by a clever advertising agency in the run-up to gas privatisation, Sid epitomised the Government's vision of a self-reliant, mass home-owning and share-owning democracy.

On the whole, Sid has not done badly over the ten years since the first great utility privatisations of telecommunications and gas. Popular capitalism has proved enduring, and Sid has remained loyal, even stoical. British Gas still has 1.7 million small shareholders.

However, this loyalty looks like being tested to the limit by the latest act in the long-running saga of utilities privatisation, the introduction of competition and associated regulation. This week, the gas industry regulator, Ofgas, announced new proposals for controlling the prices charged by British Gas TransCo, the business that operates the gas pipeline and storage system throughout the country.

In essence, Ofgas is calling for a cut in revenue of more than the total dividend paid last year to British Gas's 1.7 million shareholders — and this from a business already well established on a course of productivity improvement and manpower reduction impressive by any standards. Over the past three years, manpower has been reduced by 40 per cent — with the loss of 13,000 jobs — while the capacity, efficiency and reliability of the system have increased. This drive continues.

As the regulator herself has conceded, the intellectual basis for these new proposals — coming less than three years after an exhaustive MMC inquiry, and overturning many of its findings — is arcane. Arcane or not, the effect is simple — an unprecedented tilting of the balance of interest from shareholder to consumer that amounts to little short of expropriation. Nor would gas consumers ultimately benefit, because the short-sighted, impractical measures proposed by Ofgas would imperil TransCo's ability to fulfil its statutory duty to provide a safe and reliable transportation service. Instead of "win-win", shareholders and consumers are faced with "lose-lose". Worse, the proposals imply a highly interventionist form of regulation which will stifle managerial initiative. The most destructive features of the era of nationalised utilities look like being revisited through regulatory stranglehold. Indeed, many will regard the proposed scale of shareholder expropriation as tantamount to backdoor renationalisation.

Yet again, the appearance of regulatory shambles looks like tarnishing what should be the Government's proud record of utilities privatisation.

Who knows, history may come to see the TransCo price review and its outcome as a watershed. I hope this is so, and that it leads to a fundamentally new basis for the regulation of those key elements of the nation's infrastructure that are natural monopolies. Networks such as those for distributing gas, electricity and water form the essential core of a competitive modern economy. They are capital intensive, technologically advanced, and demand the highest standards of safety, reliability and supply security. In my view, the regulatory framework for them must be characterised, above all, by transparency, consistency, stability and "due processes" that instil confidence on the part of all stakeholders in fair and balanced regulatory decisions.

Any constructive critique of the regulation of such natural monopolies must be balanced by recognition of the achievements of this Government's drive for utilities privatisation and market liberalisation. In the case of British Gas, consumer prices have been reduced by almost a quarter in real terms since privatisation. To deliver this, there have been large increases in productivity and efficiency, while sustaining our exemplary record of safe and reliable gas supply.

The drive for improvement is far from spent. The liberalisation of the entire UK gas market, and hopefully, in parallel, the electricity market, will undoubtedly deliver further substantial benefits. British Gas for one has been fully supportive of the drive for market liberalisation. When the gas industry can overcome the current structural impediment of the monopoly era "take-or-pay" contracts, there will be scope for further significant price reductions.

How then should we preserve these great gains while ensuring that the full potential for further benefits is realised?

We must start by recognising the boldness of the experiment in which Britain is leading the world by introducing competition to the supply of gas to individual households. Making competition work fully for all 19 million domestic consumers will take time, perhaps years. Inevitably there will be patches of instability, even chaos, on the way there. The essential safety net that ultimately guarantees the success and operational integrity of this bold experiment, and hence the effectiveness of competition, is TransCo. Regulatory changes made now that would imperil TransCo's ability to fulfil its statutory duty of safely and reliably carrying gas from beach to meter could not be timed more perversely. They would be irresponsible.

Next, we should recognise the dangers of "industrial anorexia", of squeezing the life and dynamism out of major industrial enterprises whose continued success depends on forward-looking long-term investment, on innovation, and on retention of the most talented and committed people. When such anorexia is driven by regulatory fiat, we have good cause to be concerned. For Britain's utilities regulators all too often display the intellectual equivalent of being muscle-bound. They have attracted the finest intellectual talent and analytical capability. So well and good, except that some of the most critical judgments that must be made by the regulators require more than intellectual analysis: they require a deep understanding and seasoned experience of the practical realities of business and the key factors for its lasting success.

Finally, let us resist the tendency for self-denigration and the denial of our achievements. British Gas's achievements over the past three decades compare favourably with those of any gas utility in the world. Certainly, there is no gas industry that is more sophisticated, highly developed and technologically advanced. The core of skills and experience developed in British Gas is admired worldwide and sought after, particularly in those rapidly industrialising economies that want to develop modern gas industries. Pursuing these opportunities internationally will benefit not just shareholders, but order books and jobs in many other British companies.

Richard Giordano is chairman of British Gas

BAA wins Allders bid

BAA has emerged as the successful bidder for Allders International, the tax and duty-free arm of the department store group (Clare Stewart writes). It is paying £130 million in cash for the chain of 222 airport, cruise ship and ferry outlets worldwide.

Allders International is the largest duty-free retailer in Europe. In the year to September its turnover was £518 million, with pre-tax profits of £11.7 million.

Barry Gibson, BAA group retail director, described the acquisition as "a natural development of our strategy to build an international airport business". BAA said it has no immediate plans to rebrand or restructure the Allders outlets.

John Pattison, chairman of Allders, said yesterday that the future of the international division had been under consideration in the light of changes after 1999 that will end the current duty-free allowances in Europe.

Shares in BAA rose 6p, to 534p, while Allders closed at 226p, down 14p.

Spending overrun raises PSBR

By Janet Bush
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

PUBLIC borrowing has gone adrift in the first month of the new tax year but because of an overrun on government spending rather than a hole in tax revenues, the chief concern of recent months.

The public sector borrowing requirement was £3.3 billion in April, compared with City forecasts of £2.8 billion, Office for National Statistics figures showed. Economists are already expecting the Treasury to revise its full-year PSBR forecast of £22.5 billion upwards in its summer forecast in July, which will make it more difficult for the Chancellor to justify tax cuts in the eyes of the financial markets.

Alex Garrard, of UBS, said: "Clearly, based on economic considerations alone, Kenneth Clarke's scope for tax cuts has all but disappeared."

The worse than expected borrowing figure for April was largely due to higher than predicted spending. City economist have long worried that the tight discipline exerted over spending in the past few years may start to crumble as the election draws nearer.

Central government spending was up 7.5 per cent on a year ago last month, compared with the Treasury's forecast for the year as a whole of 1.2 per cent. Of course, this is just one month's figures but it implies that the Government will have to re-exert control on public spending to meet its existing borrowing projections, let alone find room for tax cuts in November.

Better news came on the revenues side of the equation with income tax, corporation tax and VAT all showing healthy growth in April. Total receipts were up 12.1 per cent in April, compared with a full-year Treasury projection of 5 per cent and the year-on-year rise of only 4 per cent seen in March. Adam Cole, of HSBC James Capel, said: "While it is clearly too soon to draw conclusions for the year as a whole, it seems that a PSBR overshoot relative to the Treasury's forecast is now more likely to come from laxity on spending than continuing undershoots on tax receipts."

Last year, public borrowing badly overshot the Treasury's projections, largely because of a shortfall in tax receipts.

J Bibby ahead by 34%

J Bibby, the industrial holding company controlled by South Africa's Barlow Rand, lifted half-year pre-tax profits 34 per cent, to £18.97 million, aided by an 89 per cent leap in operating profits in the capital equipment division.

Earnings per share rose 30 per cent, to 6.51p. The interim dividend rises 14 per cent to 2p. The shares rose 1p to 131p.

Richard Mansell-Jones, chairman, said sales of earth-moving equipment in Spain rose significantly because of orders from mining. Tempus, page 28

Cable's cash

General Cable, the cable company, has had a second consecutive quarter of positive cashflow and expects to end the year in the same state. Operating cashflow was £805,000 in the quarter to March 31 (operating cashflow loss of £691,000 in the same 1995 quarter). The pre-tax operating loss was £6.12 million (£4.64 million loss) on turnover of £9.69 million, up 45 per cent.

Ocean drops

Pre-tax profits of Ocean Wilsons Holdings, the investment holding company and shipping services group, fell to £7.7 million, from £10.48 million. Operating profits rose to £7.7 million, from £4.88 million, but financial items made pre-tax profits fall. A 3.5p final dividend, due on June 21, makes 4.5p (4.25p).

Israeli aim

SEA Multimedia, an Israeli producer of CD-Rom titles, is to float on the Alternative Investment Market in June, valued at about £16 million. SEA is to raise £2.5 million by placing 3.6 million ordinary shares at 70p.

Next sales up

Next, the clothing retailer and mail order group, yesterday said that spring and summer sales are strongly up on last year.

Writ over book served on Forsyth

By Jon Ashworth

THE joint administrators of Polly Peck International (PPI) have served a writ on Elizabeth Forsyth, seeking royalties from her book on the collapse of Asil Nadir's fruit-to-electronics empire. The writ was served on Forsyth in prison, where she is serving five years for handling stolen funds.

The move is designed to recoup some of the £400,000 of PPI money allegedly handled by Forsyth during a visit to Switzerland in 1989. The money was used to pay private Nadir stockbroking and farming debts. Deloitte & Touche is separately contemplating legal action against SG Warburg Soditic, the Swiss firm which handed over the money to Forsyth.

Lawyers acting for Deloitte & Touche have obtained a court order, prohibiting Forsyth from disposing of assets in England and Wales up to the value of £400,000. The prohibition relates in particular to earnings on the book *Who Killed Polly Peck?*, her account of the Nadir saga. The order requires Forsyth to disclose the value of all her assets in England and Wales. A further hearing will be held in the High Court on June 5.

Forsyth: five-year sentence

Shoemaker tumbles

SHARES in Chamberlain Phipps fell by more than one third yesterday as the shoemaking company gave warning that it would record a loss for the year (Alasdair Murray writes).

The shares fell 23p to 42p after the company blamed difficult trading conditions and a £3 million restructuring charge for the collapse in profits. It added that it would not pay a final dividend.

The warning is the second issued by the company in six months. The shares slumped 25 per cent last October after the company gave warning that it was facing a difficult trading environment. But an improved trading statement in December, when the company unveiled half-year profits of £2.8 million, helped to revive the share price.

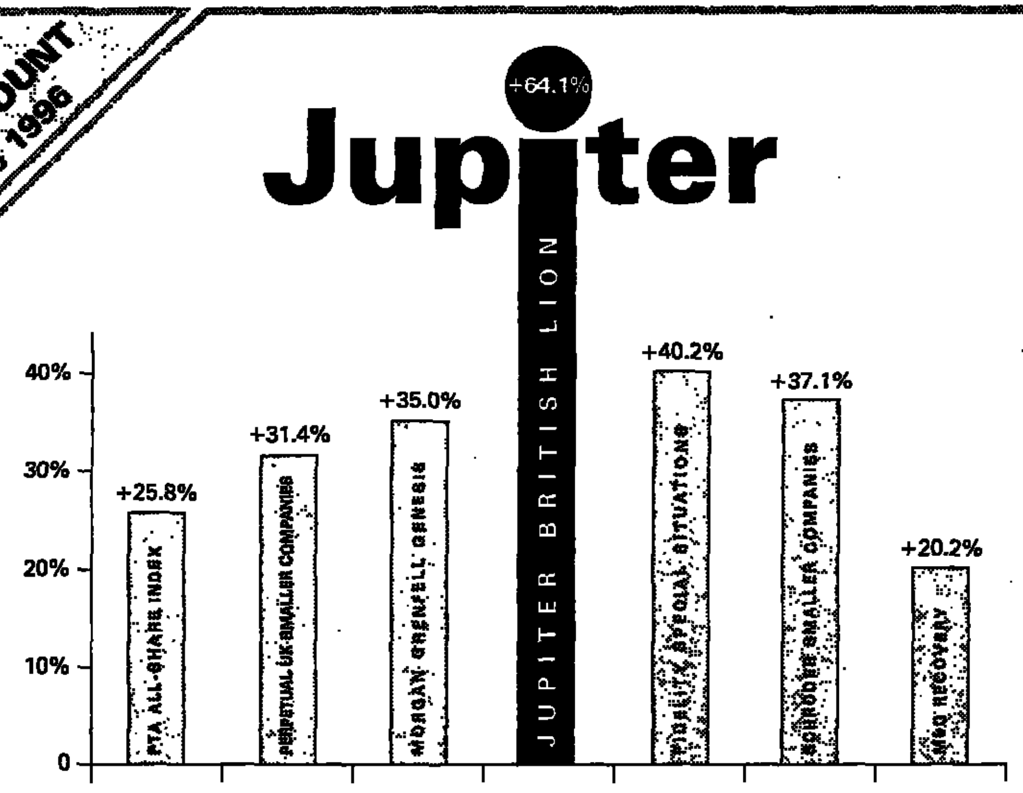
Chamberlain floated on the stock market in 1994 at 165p.

Tempus, page 28

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.99	1.83
Austria Sch	17.31	15.81
Belgium Fr	50.64	46.34
Canada $	2.181	2.021
Cyprus Cyp£	0.751	0.696
Denmark Kr	9.51	8.71
Finland Mkk	7.70	7.05
France Fr	8.26	7.61
Germany Dm	2.47	2.28
Greece Dr	383.00	358.00
Hong Kong $	12.37	11.37
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.3100	4.6800
Italy Lira	2461.00	2306.00
Japan Yen	175.70	159.70
Malta	0.587	0.532
Netherlds Gld	2.744	2.514
New Zealand $	2.35	2.13
Norway Kr	10.49	9.69
Portugal Esc	250.00	231.50
S Africa Rd	7.17	6.37
Spain Pta	200.50	187.50
Sweden Kr	10.86	10.06
Switzerland Fr	2.03	1.85
Turkey Lira	120958.	112958.
USA $	1.612	1.482

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.



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THE SUNDAY TIMES

"As the assembled executives started to digest the contents of the Ofgas review, they realised that a terrible year had just got a lot worse . . ."

Does British Gas have a future? Business, The Sunday Times tomorrow

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Schroder Ventures International Investment Trust plc
(Incorporated in England and Wales with registered number 3066856)

Introduction of

96,761,554 ordinary shares of £1 each
and £10,752,825 6.25 per cent. convertible bonds 2006
and £10,752,825 7.00 per cent. convertible bonds 2006

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Share capital immediately following listing

Authorised Number	Authorised Amount		Issued and fully paid Number	Issued and fully paid Amount
150,000,000	£150,000,000	ordinary shares of £1 each	96,761,554	£96,761,554

SVIIT will be a new investment trust which will offer investors the opportunity to participate in the buy-out and development capital markets through an international portfolio of investments in Schroder Ventures Funds.

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18 May 1996

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مكتب الإعلام

35

A WORKING WEEK FOR: ROGER SAUL

Mulberry man brings dash of colour to AIM

Sarah Bagnall traces the rise of a high-quality company from humble Somerset origins into a worldwide concern poised for its market debut

ROBIN MAYES

Model business: Roger Saul, who launched Mulberry with a £500 birthday present, has established an international reputation for luxury leather goods

ITALY has Gucci, France has Louis Vuitton and Britain has Roger Saul.

In the world of high-quality, luxury leather goods, these are the names that matter. But although Saul might attract warm handshakes and nods of recognition among the textured-Scotchgrain *cognoscenti*, his name means nothing to the general public.

However, it only requires mention of the business that he created 25 years ago — Mulberry, the manufacturer and retailer of upmarket leather goods, gloriously rich soft furnishings and distinctly country-style clothing — and the connection is made.

Saul, 45, started Mulberry with a mere £500 — a 21st birthday present from his parents — and has built the company into a £25 million turnover business, with stores from St Petersburg and Hong Kong to Helsinki and London.

Next week the group is expected to be valued on the stock market at more than £30 million when it places about 25 per cent of its shares on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM).

Saul's first brush with the retail trade came while he was still at school in Bath. It was the late Sixties — the heyday of *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts' Club Band* — when Saul, still in his teens, travelled up to London at weekends to sell Victorian military uniforms in Portobello Road market.

> ‘We haven't seen colour having such importance for 20 years’

However, in spite of his passion for retailing, he headed, after leaving school, for a business studies course at the City of Westminster College, courtesy of a solid fuel company. "Step one, I had got to London. But then I thought: 'Wow, under-manager in Surbiton at the age of 30 is perhaps not what I want.' The company was very good to me when I said I wanted to get into fashion and they let me go," he recalls. As a result, three months into his course, he switched sponsors.

His next sponsor was more up his street. Saul walked into the office of one of the Carnaby Street kings and asked for sponsorship for his remaining years at college. "He said: 'What on earth is business management', but agreed," says Saul.

While Saul was still at college, he branched out on his own. "It was 1970 and I went out and bought some leather, a knife and got designing. The first thing I did was chokers, which I sold to Biba and the other hip boutiques at the time. It was so successful I graduated to belts."

That was the birth of his own business, which, after much deliberation, was called Mulberry. "I looked at the Italian and French names and they were all signatures — Yves Saint Laurent, Pierre Cardin and Louis Vuitton. Somehow Roger Saul didn't have the right ring and was not going to impress anyone. So I looked for an English name and Mulberry seemed right," he says.

Saul's role at Mulberry has changed significantly since those early days. Originally he was designer, cutter, stitcher, marketing director, sales director and general dogsbody. He recalls: "I used to design the belts and then stitch them up on the kitchen table in my flat. Then I'd go out with my suitcase of belts and see all the buyers and sell them. I would literally take an order and go back to Somerset, make it, cut it, stitch it, and my mother, Joan, would type up the invoice and then I would go back and deliver it. It was a hand-to-mouth existence in those days."

In the first year, sales reached £7,000. Now, Saul employs nearly 500 people around the world, of whom more than 350 work in the group's Somerset factories, and he has had to relinquish his stranglehold on the design side to take on the mantle of chief executive and chairman.

"My role is as chairman and chief executive rather than designer, as I keep on being reminded. As a result my role is to be the inspiration as to where the business is going and what it should be doing. I should be the design guru in feeling which direction the product should be going, and the marketeer in understanding how we are best going to present the product in different markets around the world," he says.

Speaking in a small, quiet voice, Saul makes one feel that he is self-effacing, but that impression evaporates as he talks about the business. Last Monday, he held a review meeting on the menswear collection for spring and summer of next year. Saul, together with a plethora of managers, sat down and went through the collection to double-check the best-sellers and ensure that the design development manager had an up-to-the-minute picture of the market. "This is because what is happening right now is terribly important," he explains.

By looking at what is flying in the shops from the current season's collection and what isn't, as well as how well the selling season has gone for the autumn collection, the team can garner valuable insights into what is likely to sell as far ahead as next spring.

"We saw this with long-sleeve polo necks. They are just not selling. Why not? So we will look into it and could decide to cut back the numbers. Or I can say: 'Come on guys. You have only sold that many suits, why are you doing a range that big or why aren't we putting more effort and money into sportswear because we sold masses of that?' "

The meetings also expose potential problems, such as the news that emerged at Monday's meeting that the company had lost a supplier of a particular menswear line. "My response was: 'I'm very sorry you are going to have to design it, and you are going to have to produce it, and you are going to have to come out with that product at the right pricing point'. Instead of sitting there saying: 'Oh no, we haven't got a supplier', they are going to have to find one and they have about three and a half months to sort it out."

Saul admits that this tack was only taken because the product was so important for the collection as a whole.

"Maybe if we hadn't had that meeting we might not have found that out until six weeks later, by when it would have been too late." The next day, he went through the whole process again with ladies' wear.

It is not only Saul's role that has changed. Gone are the purple velvet flares, the beard and the long hair. They have been replaced by an immaculately attired English gentleman in highly polished shoes, tailored pinstriped suit and a waistcoat adorned with a fob watch.

Saul lives with his wife, Monty, and their three boys, William, 17, Cameron, 15, and Freddie, 7. Monty, who is a former house model for Christian Dior in Paris, is a director of Mulberry, in charge of staff training. They appear to live a Mulberry existence. Their home is a beautiful old Somerset farmhouse, from where, each day, Saul makes the half-hour journey along winding country lanes to the company's headquarters at Chilcompton, near Midsomer Norton. A keen gardener, Saul has a three-acre walled garden that inspires some of Mulberry's fabric designs. "I did a new border last year. It was deep wines, reds, blues and silvers turning to golds as the autumn came. I got so excited about that colour palette that we have used it quite strongly in the autumn collection," says Saul, brandishing a long, purple velvet man's coat. The coat is part of Mulberry's latest ranges, which have richer, brighter colours than in recent years. Saul believes this is connected to economic conditions, and spotting the shifts in tastes is an important part of his job.

"During recession, people don't really want to buy something that is lime green and exciting, whereas when you come out of recession things tend to burst out like spring, and it goes crazy and bright colours come back in. It's all about understanding those cycles. We haven't seen colour having as much importance as it does now for 20 years," he adds.

Saul says that the most exciting aspect of his job is research and development. The group draws on a host of influences for its collection. "We have to think: 'Should we be looking at Morocco or Indian material designs or cavalry uniforms of the early 20th century?' So we have someone down at Sandhurst [the Royal Military Academy] at the moment researching uniforms."

The share placing on the AIM will raise up to £9 million, enabling Mulberry to pay off City backers who hold expensive loan notes issued at the peak of the interest rate cycle four years ago. Repaying the mixture of equity and deep-discounted loan notes will improve the group's cashflow and net asset value. Saul and his family will own about 75 per cent of the group after the flotation. Thursday is impact day, and trading in Mulberry shares will start soon afterwards.

The move will provide Saul with greater flexibility to expand Mulberry, and to establish it firmly alongside the likes of Gucci and Louis Vuitton.

HIDDEN ASSETS

Art meets architecture in the palace on Fenchurch Street

Joanna Pitman goes on a tour of the soon-to-be redesigned Lloyd's Register

Lloyd's Register of Shipping has just moved out of its City of London headquarters, in Fenchurch Street, to make way for a major redesign of the site. Magpie House, Coronation House and Haddon House are to be demolished, and designs for a new headquarters are due at the end of this month from the Richard Rogers Partnership, with the building due to be completed by the next millennium.

However, Lloyd's Register's excellent hidden asset, the sumptuous Grade II listed classical building at No 71, is to be retained and refurbished. Sir Richard Rogers is to work the new design around it.

Sir Richard ought to be delighted to do so, for this building is one of London's finest galleries of turn-of-the-century architecture, art, design and craftsmanship. Soon after its completion in 1901, it was described by *The Magazine of Art* as "a modern palace of art" and its exterior has been likened to "a Loire chateau bursting to escape through the roof of a Venetian *palazzo*". The architect was Sir Thomas Colcutt, designer of Simpson's-in-the-Strand and the Wigmore Hall. It is his Fenchurch Street *palazzo*, however, that became the measure of his achievement.

The exterior is in a Classical style derived from 16th-century Italy — in fact Colcutt's building would not look out of place amid the Classical palaces of Venice's seafaring aristocracy. However, Colcutt's is marked by a flourish of originality in the use of elaborate friezes of maritime scenes and in turrets projecting from the corners of the building, each of which is heavily decorated with ships under sail and sculpted maidens bearing shipbuilding tools.

George Frampton, best known for his 1912 Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens, created much of the figure sculpture on the main elevations, and Frank Lynn Jenkins was responsible for many of the interior friezes. Lynn Jenkins's work has an unusual medieval quality, reminiscent of Pre-Raphaelite influences, and his use of precious stones, electro-plated metals and exotic effects created a strong, sensual Art Nouveau flavour in much of his work.

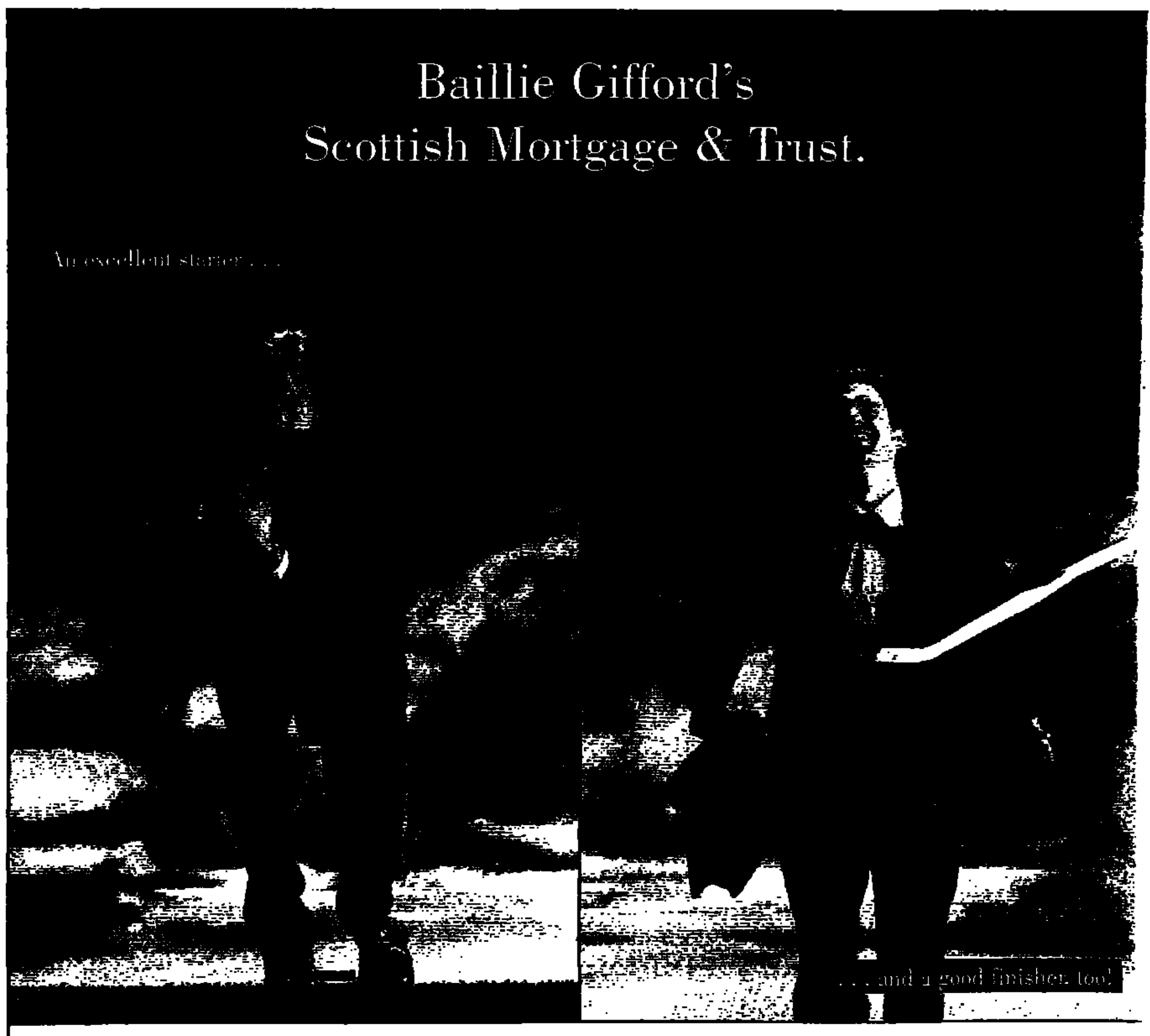
Colcutt chose the artists and craftsmen who decorated Lloyd's Register for their shared belief that art must complement architecture.

The interior is a curious blend of Edwardian Baroque and Arts and Crafts, with painted ceilings apparently inspired by the Sistine Chapel. The impression is highly coloured and pungently eclectic. In the Committee Room, for example, a huge marble chimneypiece with tilework by William de Morgan, a leading ceramicist of the late 19th century, is complemented by classical columns and futuristic chandeliers. The overall picture, in this room particularly, reflects the influence of the Art Workers Guild, founded in 1884 to encourage art in architecture.

The library is equally sumptuous, its mahogany bookcases inlaid with rosewood and fruit woods. Much of the panelwork bears an inlaid flower motif in Art Nouveau style. The barrel-vaulted ceiling is decorated by stencils incorporating nautical designs. Here are the arms of the great shipbuilding ports of the day — Belfast, Glasgow, Stockton-on-Tees, Greenock, Liverpool, Newcastle, Hartlepool, Sunderland and London.

Lloyd's Register has been part of the City for 230 years, the idea of a record of a ship's age, origin and construction having arisen among gossiping underwriters in Edward Lloyd's coffee-house in the late 17th century. Over those 230 years, its headquarters have undergone a transformation from coffee-shop to Edwardian baroque palace of art. In four years time, we will see how Richard Rogers has transformed them yet again.

Classical columns and futuristic chandeliers adorn the General Committee Room



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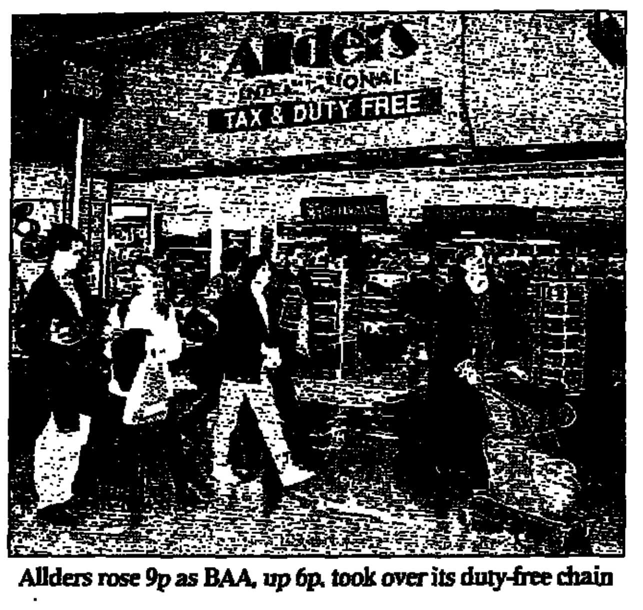
TT 18/5/96

LOW COST PEP AVAILABLE

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Dow's strong run helps to restore confidence



Allders rose 9p as BAA, up 6p, took over its duty-free chain

EIGHT days of consecutive gains on Wall Street enabled the London stock market to end the week on a high note.

Another early 50-point surge in the Dow Jones industrial average breathed fresh life into the London market, with prices closing near their best of the day. The FT-SE 100 index finished 36 points higher at 3,789.6, a rise on the week of 35.2, as turnover reached 857 million shares.

Renewed talk of a large bid emerging and confirmation of a windfall for National Power shareholders underpinned investor confidence. A strong performance by the bond market in the wake of the latest PSBR also helped sentiment, with the expiry of the May FT-SE 100 traded options passing off without event.

Glaxo Wellcome continued to make the most of this week's positive comments about current trading with a rise of 17½p to 854p. Shareholders were told that it expected to introduce 20 new drugs between 1997 and the turn of the century. The benefits of the merger with Wellcome were also evident.

Bid talk continued to rumble on beneath the surface, with much of the interest focused on the financial sector. **Bank of Scotland** climbed another 14½p to 271p amid claims that it may get together with **Royal Bank of Scotland**, up 21p at 552p. The speculation was rekindled earlier this week by Standard Life's decision to put its 32 per cent stake in Bank of Scotland up for sale. Standard **Chartered**, up 23p at 640p, is seen as another hot favourite to be bid for.

The composite insurers were marked higher on talk of a bid from Allianz, the German insurer. Brokers say it may try to snap up both **Royal Insurance**, up 12p at 450p, and **Sun Alliance**, 15p better at 429p, which have both agreed to merge, or may turn its attention to **Commercial Union**, 7p better at 637p.

Revived speculative buying lifted **Lucas Industries** 7p to 239p on turnover of more than 10.5 million shares. The group is still in talks with Varity Corporation in the US about closer co-operation.

Railtrack shares are expected to get off to a flying start in their partly-paid form when trading gets under way on Monday. The £1.95 billion flotation was almost three times oversubscribed, with the fully-paid price expected to be pitched at 390p. Over on the grey market, IG Index, the City bookmaker, was quoting **Railtrack** shares at 212½p to 215½p compared with the initial part-paid price of 190p for private investors and 200p for the institutions.

British Gas managed to halt this week's slide that followed the regulators' findings, ending the session 3p better at 177½p, but the price still ended 50½p down on the week. Richard Giordano, chairman, is urging shareholders to write complaining to the Government over the decision.

National Power rebounded 31p to 547p afer confirming reports that it plans to reward shareholders with a £1.14 billion windfall in the form of a 100p special dividend. It also plans to increase the annual payout by almost 50 per cent to 23p. The move follows the decision by the Government to block its proposed bid for Southern Electric, the regional electricity company. National Power said it was committed to further real growth in dividends and that more reduction in dividend cover would be appropriate.

BT continued to make headway, adding 7p to 340p in reponse to Thursday's figures which saw pre-tax profits reach £3 billion for the first time. Within the next week, or two, Oftel, the industry regulator, is due to unveil details of its pricing formula. BT has been at loggerheads with the regulator for some time and if it chooses to reject the findings, the whole matter is likely to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. This would result in a period of further uncertainty for the share price, which has been underperforming the market.

Allders, the department store chain, rose 9p to 249p after announcing it had sold its airport duty-free operation to BAA, the independent airport operator. The price tag is expected to be around £130 million. **BAA** rose 6p to 534p.

Telemetrix slipped 3p to 102p after warning that interim earnings are likely to fall short of last year, owing to losses at its GTI subsidiary. Arthur Walsh, chairman, said action had already been taken to cut costs, improve efficiency and improve services.

The speculators were picking up shares in **British Biotech**, up 45p at £28.45, in anticipation of further update of phase two trials of its Marimastat cancer treatment. On Tuesday, the group will give a presentation to Asco, the international oncology conference. Brokers will also get a rundown of current trials. Last year British Biotech shares surged from 428p to £18.10 as the City assessed the prospects for Marimastat.

Stagecoach, the independent bus operator, firmed 1p to 441p despite threats to refer its proposed acquisition of Cambus to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission unless it agreed to certain conditions. The Government wants Stagecoach to sell MK Metro, Milton Keynes CityBus and United Counties Omnibus depot and to impose conditions on fares and service levels, responses to competition and information provision. In return Stagecaoch would hold a dominant position for bus services in Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire and Milton Keynes.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Prices clawed back early falls, supported by strong US treasury bonds. This enabled the London market to shrug off the "slightly disappointing" PSBR numbers. In the futures pit the June series of the long gilt rose £17/32 to £106¾ in thin trading that saw just 38,000 contracts completed.

Among conventional issues, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 was £19/32 better at £97 27/32, while at the shorter end treasury 8 per cent 2000 finished £7/32 better at £102 7/16.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Shares followed bonds higher on Wall Steet, with the Dow Jones industrial average 41.37 points up by midday at 5,676.42.

T&N, the automotive components group, continued to bump along the bottom, the price down 3p to 156p, as a large line stock changed hands. Brokers say a put through of 12.35 million shares, about 2.5 per cent of the issued share capital, was recorded at 155p, stretching total turnover to 44 million shares.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
British Gas	177½p	-50½p	Tough Ofgas review
Bank of Scotland	271p	+32½p	Standard Life stake for sale
BTR	299½p	-13½p	Profits warning
Amstrad Consumer Elec	161p	-47p	Profits warning
National Power	547p	+12p	Billion pound payout promised
Glaxo Wellcome	854p	+79p	Positive AGM statement
Mercury Asset Man'ment	976p	+61p	Positive trading news
Hanson	190½p	-9p	Cool response to demerger plans
Wace	204p	-83p	Gloomy outlook

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	5676.42 (+41.37)
S&P Composite	668.02 (+3.17)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	21916.60 (-230.61)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	10816.85 (-16.56)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	554.20 (-4.73)

Sydney:

AO	2251.6 (+6.1)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2537.33 (+8.58)

Singapore:

Straits	2341.79 (-6.10)

Brussels:

General	9233.34 (+19.12)

Paris:

CAC-40	2136.91 (+12.27)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	786.60 (+2.20)

London:

FT 30	2816.5 (+23.9)
FT 100	3789.6 (+36.0)
FT-SE Mid 250	4513.4 (+19.6)
FT-SE-A 350	1917.0 (+16.0)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1680.34 (-1.69)
FT A All-Share	1901.77 (+14.78)
FT Non Financials	2017.3 (+12.29)
FT Fixed Interest	111.69 (+0.11)
FT Govt Secs	92.53 (+0.24)
Bargains	35072
SEAQ Volume	877.8m
USM (Datastrm)	220.30 (-0.22)
US$	1.5156 (+0.0037)
German Mark	2.3131 (-0.0099)
Exchange Index	84.4 (-0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2127
£:SDR	1.0490
RPI	152.6 Apr (2.4%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	152.0 Apr (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

AIM Distribution	94	...
AIM Trust	101	...
Active Imaging	116	...
Atlantis Japan Gwth	681¼	- 8½
Biocompatibles Uts	145	- 8
CA Coutts (105)	*120*	...
Cairngorm BS IT Ut	925	...
Cap for Co's VCT (100)	94	...
FNR	39	...
Gartmore Select Jap	94	- 1
Just Group	4¼	+ ¼
La Senza (150)	158	...
MSB International	241	...
Malden Group	*275*	...
Millnm & Cop (278)	337	...
Premiere Group	140	+ 3
Reflec	66	+ 4
Singer & Fried AIM	101	+ 1
Sira Business	4¼	...
Stentor	91	- 2
Taiwan Inv Tst C	97	...
Thomas Potts	10	...
Tom Hoskins	53	...
Tradepoint Fincl	185	...
Vanguard Medica	605	...
Waterfall (45)	52	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Knox D'Arcy n/p	¼	...
On Demand n/p (180)	1½	...
Porter Chad n/p	6	+ 1
Queensbrgh n/p (28)	1½	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

ERF	273p (+30p)
Buissness Post	410p (+32p)
Telewest	180p (+10p)
Arjo Wiggins	188p (+10p)
MAID	297p (+15p)
Stand Chart	640p (+23p)
Br Airways	558p (+19p)
Royal	450p (+12p)
Nat West	661p (+16p)
Ryl Bk Scot	552p (+21p)

FALLS:

Mitel	445p (-16p)
Allders	226p (-14p)
Sentry Farm	304p (-11p)
Dorling Kind	624p (-9p)

Closing Prices Page 40

TEMPUS

Slow boats in China

THE timing of the Heseltine trade mission to China is cute. With the country on the verge of a trade war with the United States over pirate CDs, what could be more welcome to the Chinese than the sight of a jumbo jet full of British businessmen waving contracts and chequebooks. For Britain, it is an opportunity to step up its trading links with the Peoples Republic which have been pathetically weak. Total British exports to China were only £844 million in 1994, with Britain accounting for a mere 2.6 per cent of OECD exports to China, ranking behind Germany, France and Italy.

Foreign businessmen in Peking talk of a more aggressive approach to doing business from other nations whose diplomatic missions are less populated by distinguished Sinologists. However, Britain is making its presence felt in direct investment in China, where it ranks top among European nations, investing $2.2 billion last year, about twice the level of both France and Germany.

Even so, the environment is difficult for foreign investors. China has just begun to lower interest rates after a credit squeeze introduced to cool the economy and a 22 per cent inflation rate. A shortage of credit has caused temporary difficulties for some foreign investment projects, including BP's $240 million acetic acid plant on the Yangtze River, where the company has been waiting for its Chinese partner to come up with funds. Much more serious problems have beset others, including Shell whose $6 billion Nanhai refinery project has been log-jammed for years and the company is now trying to extricate one of its employees from a Chinese jail. This is not a business culture for the timid.

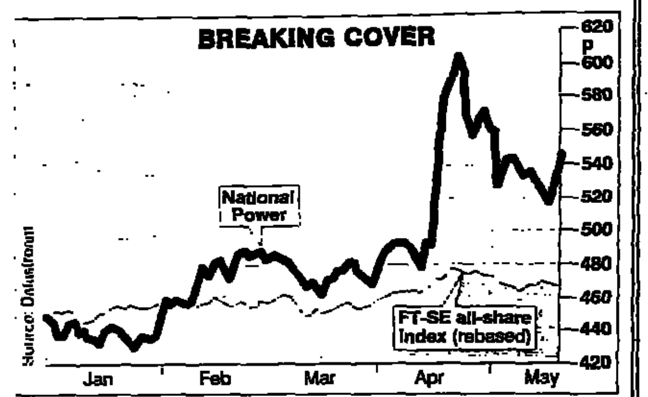
National Power

WITH almost unseemly haste, the utilities are showering cash on their shareholders. The logic is that there is little reason to hold on to surplus cash only to see it disappear into the Treasury under a new government looking for a milch-cow to fund social programmes.

National Power's £1 special dividend was expected, but it is no less impressive for that. What was even more interesting was the handsome rise in the ordinary payout and the promise of more. Gearing is to rise and the company indicates that cover can fall but, having reduced it to 2.3 times, National Power is being coy about how far it will go.

That depends on how you view the company. National Power is higher risk than an electricity distributor and faces vigorous competition in 1998, with some predicting falling earnings. The company is bullish about overseas projects and proudly spoke of doubled earnings from overseas power generation but those markets, too, are competitive. In Thailand, 32 companies are bidding for a power station contract.

The interesting question is whether National Power's dividend prospects make it attractive. Stripping out the two divis announced yesterday, the ex-dividend price should be 425p. Assuming 6-7 per cent nominal growth, the propspective yield is over 7 per cent. That is a handsome premium but the electricity distributors yield as much for less risk.



Chamberlain Phipps

IT HAS not taken long for shares in Chamberlain Phipps, the shoe manufacturer, to lose their shine. Dan Sullivan, the venture capitalist who brought Chamberlain to the market in August 1994, courted controversy. At the time of the float, the directors adopted some generous incentive arrangements and paid themselves bonuses totalling £500,000 for their work on the flotation.

For 12 months, the company enjoyed a honeymoon on the stock market, turning in an encouraging set of maiden results. The romance began to turn sour when Chamberlain made a first profit warning in October. In the light of yesterday's warning it is not that statement that looks so strange but the fact that the company suggested at the time of its interim results that the trading outlook for the rest of the year was improving.

The City is unlikely to forget, or forgive, in a hurry. Forecast profits of £14 million for this year have been entirely wiped out. Yesterday's fall in the share price leaves Chamberlain bearing debts double the company's market value. Chamberlain's few remaining shareholders will be tempted to give the company the boot.

British Biotechnology

BIOTECHNOLOGY enthusiasts should circle Tuesday in their diaries. Fortunes could be made or lost then when British Biotech, the brightest light in the sector, gives an update on the clinical trials of Marimastat, its most promising cancer drug. The news will be presented at an oncology conference in America and the word in the City is that the latest results from its Phase 2 trial will be encouraging. If the results are as good as hoped, the shares, which have climbed from 461p to £28 in the past year, could rocket to £35 or more. That would value the company, which seemingly had nothing going for it a couple of years ago, at more than £2 billion.

However, before stocking up on British Biotech shares, investors should temper greed with fear and remember that there is a fair chance that the latest results could show little or no progress. The shares are priced on revenue projections and the slightest hint of bad news could send them plummeting. For biotech shares there is no natural trading range because the company has no earnings or assets to value and British Biotech is still at least two years from getting its first product to market. In short, buying before Tuesday gives you no better than casino odds, so an investment is option money.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

May	1118-1090	Jul	1076-1073
Jul	1138-1137	Sep	1086-1083
Sep	1155-1153	Dec	1100-1095
Dec	*1071-1070*	Mar	1110-1106
Mar	1057-1055		
May	1064 BID		Volume: 6965

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	2010-2005	Jan	1926-1923
Jul	1954-1953	Mar	1895-1890
Sep	1948-1947	May	1880-1860
Nov	1941-1940		Volume: 2114

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		*Mar*	332.5-31.0
Spot: 401.2		May	330.0-29.1
Aug	380.0-79.6	Aug	329.5-27.6
Oct	348.5-48.0	Oct	317.5-15.2
Dec	338.5-37.0		Volume: 919

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on May 16

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	124.99	140.04	99.50
(+/-)	-9.69	-49.95	-2.74
Eng/Wales:	125.10	136.40	99.09
(+/-)	+9.85	-44.30	-3.59
(%)	+4.0	n/c	+32.0
Scotland:	109.42	127.40	100.44
(+/-)	-11.91	-33.58	-0.81
(%)	-11.0	-3.0	-29.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.00	-0.60
Brent 15 day (Jul)	17.65	-0.25
Brent 15 day (Aug)	17.30	-0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	19.45	-0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Aug)	18.85	-0.15

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	221 (-9)	223 (-9)
Gasoil EEC	174 (-3)	176 (-3)
3.5 Fuel Oil	97 (+1)	99 (+1)
Naphtha	187 (-1)	189 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Jun	161.25-61.50	Sep	157.25-57.75
Jul	157.25-57.50	Oct	157.00-57.50
Aug	157.00-57.25		Vol: 11265

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jul	17.61-17.65	Oct	16.88 BID
Aug	17.30 SLR	Nov	n/a
Sep	17.00 BID		Vol: 21620

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	125.65	May	115.50
Jul	127.75	Sep	110.00
Sep	116.50	Nov	114.40
Nov	118.30	*Jan*	*113.25*
Jan	120.40	Mar	122.40
	Volume: 204		Volume: 48

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Jun	unq	225.0
Nov	—	82.50
Mar	—	110.0
		Volume: 79

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

May 104.50-105.00

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
May 96	1390	1370	1380
Jun 96	1275	1265	1275
Jul 96	*1232*	*1225*	*1232*
Oct 96	1345	1335	1336
Vol: 399 lots		Open Interest: 4542	

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LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	Cash: 2665.0-2666.0	3mth: 2607.0-2609.0	Vol: 1650425
Lead ($/tonne)	851.00-852.00	846.00-847.00	129090
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1040.0-1041.0	1065.0-1066.0	230850
Tin ($/tonne)	6310.0-6315.0	6330.0-6335.0	25955
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1593.0-1593.5	1627.5-1628.0	908850
Nickel ($/tonne)	8015.0-8025.0	8105.0-8115.0	72294

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Puts Jul	Puts Oct	Puts Jan
Alld Dom	460	34	45	50½	6	11	18½
(*493½)	500	10½	24	29	22	29	38½
Argyll	330	17	25	31	10	15	19½
(*343½)	360	4½	12	18	29½	33	36½
ASDA	110	11½	13½	16	1½	4	5
(*119)	120	5	8	10½	5½	8	9
Boots	600	30½	42½	51½	10	18½	24½
(*625)	650	6	19	27½	40½	46	51
Br Airways	550	22	33	42	17	24	29½
(*550)	600	4½	13½	21	52	56	59½
BP	550	35½	45	53	6	13	17½
(*574½)	600	9	19	27½	39½	37	42
Br Steel	180	8	11½	14½	8½	11	14
(*183½)	200	1	4½	7½	24	25	27½
C & W	460	18½	29	40	18	27½	34½
(*461)	500	6	15½	24	47½	53	59
CU	600	47½	55½	66½	6	15½	20
(*636)	650	17	26½	38½	26	39	44
ICI	850	49½	63½	81	9½	25½	31½
(*880½)	900	21½	37	54	32	50	55½
Kingfishr	550	43½	57	71	6	14	19½
(*583)	600	14	28	43	27	36½	41½
Land Sec	650	14½	25	33½	20	24	30
(*658½)	700	1	8	17½	62	62½	64½
M & S	420	13½	22½	29½	10	15	19½
(*428½)	460	2½	7	13	40½	42	44
Nat West	650	32	44	58½	14	29	35½
(*660½)	700	11	22½	36	44	58	64
Sainsbury	360	26	32½	37½	4½	8½	13
(*386)	390	7	16	23	18½	23	27
Shell	900	44	59½	69½	8½	19½	23
(*929½)	950	16½	30½	41½	30	43	46
Smkl Bch	638	44	59	—	8	19	—
(*666)	687	18	34	—	30½	42½	—
Storehse	330	13½	22	—	13	18	—
(*330½)	360	3	10	—	34	37	—
Trafalgar	50	1½	1½	—	0½	0½	—
(*50½)	60	0	0	—	9½	9½	—
Unilever	1200	46½	71	84	13½	23½	29
(*1221½)	1250	20	42	55	37½	47½	52
Zeneca	1350	81	114	143½	28	51	65½
(*1389½)	1400	52½	84½	116½	50	73½	88

	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Grnd Met	420	34½	42	48½	9½	13	19
(*444½)	460	13	22	28	29½	32½	38½
Ladbroke	180	21½	24	29	7½	11	13½
(*190½)	200	9½	15	19½	18	21½	24
Utd Bisc	220	19½	23	27	7½	10½	12½
(*228½)	240	9½	13½	17½	18	20½	22½

May 17, 1996 Tot: 83537 Call: 50003 Put: 33534 FT-SE Call: 15562 Put: 5159

*Underlying security price.

	Series	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Puts Jul	Puts Oct	Puts Jan
BAA	500	36½	45½	52	4½	9½	14
(*533)	550	8	18	25	28½	33	37½
Thames W	550	17½	26	32½	21½	26½	36
(*557½)	600	2½	9½	15	62	63½	68½

	Series	Aug	Nov	Jan	Aug	Nov	Jan
BAT Ind	500	25½	34½	42½	23½	31	33½
(*501)	550	9	16	22½	58½	63½	65
BTR	280	26½	29½	33½	2	6½	8
(*297½)	300	13	17	21½	8½	14½	16
Br Aero	850	72	88	106	15	25½	31½
(*895)	900	41½	59	77½	34½	46	52½
Br Telcm	330	21½	26	28	12	16	20
(*340½)	360	7½	12	15	32	35	38
Cadbury	460	45½	53½	62½	8	13½	16½
(*490½)	500	21½	31	40	24	30½	33½
Guinness	460	39½	47	55	6	12½	13½
(*487)	500	15½	24	32	22½	30	31
GEC	330	33½	37½	41½	5½	9	11½
(*358½)	360	13	20	25	18½	22	25
Hanson	180	13½	17½	19½	4½	8	10
(*190½)	200	4	8½	10½	15½	19½	21½
LASMO	180	13	17½	20½	7	9	9½
(*183)	200	4½	8½	11½	18½	20½	21
Lucas	220	31½	35½	36	8	12½	13
(*239)	240	20	25	25½	14½	21½	22½
Pilkingtn	191	19½	—	—	4½	—	—
(*205½)	210	9	—	—	13½	—	—
Prudential	420	30	37½	46	10½	17	20½
(*434)	460	10½	18½	27	31½	38½	41½
Redland	390	34	41	46	9	14	17
(*408½)	420	18	25	30½	22½	28½	31½
R-Royce	220	16½	22½	27½	8½	13	15½
(*225)	240	7½	13	18½	20	24	26
Tesco	280	17½	22½	27½	9½	15½	16½
(*283)	300	8½	13½	18	21½	26½	27½
Vodafone	240	20	27	29½	7½	14½	17
(*249½)	260	10½	17½	20	18	24½	27
Williams	300	28½	31½	—	3½	7½	—
(*321)	330	9½	14	—	15½	21½	—

FT-SE INDEX (*3791)

	3650	3700	3750	3800	3850	3900
Calls						
May	141	91	41	0	0	0
Jun	160	117½	79	47	25	11
Jul	175	138	103½	72½	48½	30
Aug	196½	158½	126½	94	69½	48
Dec	—	231½	—	171½	—	123½
Puts						
May	0	0	0	11	61	111
Jun	10	17	30	49	77½	115½
Jul	23	35½	52½	71	97½	130
Aug	41	52½	71	90	115½	144½
Dec	—	103	—	142½	—	194

	Series	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Puts Jun	Puts Sep	Puts Dec
Abby Nat	550	39½	51½	63½	3	14½	20½
(*584)	600	9½	24	36½	22½	38	44
Amstrad	160	10	17½	21	7	11½	12½
(*161)	180	3	9½	13	20½	22½	24½
Barclays	750	47	61½	74	4½	17	22½
(*789½)	800	14½	31½	46	21½	39	45
Blue Circ	360	14½	25½	32½	8	16	21
(*366)	390	3	12½	19	26½	32½	37½
Br Gas	160	20	25	28	1	3½	6½
(*177½)	180	7	13½	17	8	11	16
Dixons	460	35½	45½	56½	3	13½	17½
(*490)	500	10½	23	34	18½	32	35½
Forte	343	32	36	—	0	0½	—
(*375)	373	7	13½	—	3	7½	—
Tarmac	120	6½	12½	16	4	7½	10½
(*122½)	130	2½	7½	10	10	13	16
Hillsdwn	160	20	23½	26	0	2½	4
(*178½)	180	5½	10½	13	5	9	11½
Lonrho	180	10½	14½	19	2	6½	8½
(*187)	200	2	5½	10	13½	17½	19½
Sears	90	7½	9½	10½	1	2½	4½
(*97½)	100	1	4½	5½	6½	7½	9½
Thorn	1700	85	121½	149½	19½	58	72½
(*1756½)	1800	33½	72	100	64	108	123
Tomkins	240	20½	25	28	1	6½	8½
(*258)	260	6½	13	17	7½	16	18
Lloyds TSB	322	18½	—	—	4	—	—
(*334½)	352	4½	—	—	20	—	—

	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Glaxo W	850	35½	51	68	24½	43½	52
(*855)	900	15	28	46	54	71	81
HSBC	950	57½	79½	100½	20	39	50
(*978½)	1000	30½	53	74	43	63½	73½
Reuter	750	59½	76½	91½	12	24½	32½
(*788)	800	29½	48½	65	33½	46½	53½

	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Royal Ins	420	39	48	57½	5½	13½	18½
(*450)	460	15	26	35½	21	31½	36½

	Series	Jun			Jun		
Fisons	260	5	—	—	0½	—	—
(*265)	280	0	—	—	15	—	—

	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Natl Pwr	500	50½	52½	52½	1	19½	24
(*546)	550	14½	18	20	14½	52	55
Scot Pwr	330	28	34	35½	2½	9	10
(*355½)	360	8½	14½	18	12	21½	23½

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Jun 96	3762.0	3803.0	3749.0	3799.0	16659
Previous open interest: 65084	Sep 96	3772.0	3809.0	3772.0	3808.5	1164
FT-SE 250	Jun 96	4505.0	4505.0	4505.0	4520.0	5
Previous open interest: 4141	Sep 96					0
Three Month Sterling	Jun 96	93.92	93.93	93.91	93.92	5001
Previous open interest: 374779	Sep 96	93.82	93.85	93.81	93.84	6766
	Dec 96	93.55	93.63	93.55	93.62	11975
Three Mth Euro Yen	Sep 96	99.07	99.08	99.07	99.07	752
	Dec 96	98.76	98.77	98.76	98.77	751
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 96	96.72	96.76	96.72	96.75	13491
Previous open interest: 1114824	Sep 96	96.76	96.83	96.75	96.80	18494
Long Gilt	Jun 96	106-02	106-26	105-30	106-24	37935
Previous open interest: 118590	Sep 96	105-09	105-25	105-09	105-24	4952
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 96	118.94	118.97	118.88	118.94	2455
	Sep 96	117.80	117.84	117.77	117.84	1178
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 96	96.48	96.99	96.33	96.93	129105
Previous open interest: 196464	Sep 96	95.54	96.08	95.45	96.02	2864
Three month ECU	Jun 96	95.65	95.68	95.64	95.67	767
Previous open interest: 26687	Sep 96	95.70	95.74	95.70	95.74	599
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 96	97.87	97.93	97.87	97.90	3612
Previous open interest: 63491	Sep 96	97.77	97.85	97.76	97.85	6534
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 96	114.45	115.44	114.37	115.34	62475
Previous open interest: 66910	Sep 96	113.90	114.71	113.90	114.70	2473

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6¾

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5¾ Low 5½ Week fixed: 5¾

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅝; 3 mth 5²¹⁄₃₂. Sell: 2 mth 5¹⁹⁄₃₂; 3 mth: 5⁵⁄₈.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5²¹⁄₃₂-5⅝	5²¹⁄₃₂-5⅝	5⅝-5¹⁹⁄₃₂	5⅝-5¹⁹⁄₃₂	
Sterling Money Rates:	6¹⁄₁₆-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6¼-6⅛	6¹¹⁄₁₆-6⁹⁄₁₆
Interbank:	6⅛-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⁵⁄₁₆-6³⁄₁₆	6¹³⁄₁₆-6¹¹⁄₁₆

Overnight: open 5¾, close 6.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	5¹⁵⁄₁₆	n/a	6	6³⁄₁₆	6⁵⁄₁₆
Sterling CDs:	5¹⁵⁄₁₆-5²⁹⁄₃₂	6-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-6	6⁷⁄₁₆-6⅜
Dollar CDs:	5.32	n/a	5.38	5.46	5.78
Building Society CDs:	6-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6¹⁄₁₆-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6¹⁄₁₆-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-6¹⁄₁₆	6⅜-6¼

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £3,630m allotted: £1,000m; Bids: £98.55% received: 78%; Last week: £98.555% received: 82%; Avge rate: £5.8156% last wk £5.8154%; Next week: £1,000m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5¹⁄₁₆-4¹⁵⁄₁₆	5⁷⁄₁₆-5⁵⁄₁₆	5½-5⅜	5⅝-5½	5-4
Deutschemark:	3⅜-3¼	3⅜-3¼	3⁷⁄₁₆-3⁵⁄₁₆	3⁷⁄₁₆-3⁵⁄₁₆	3½-2½
French Franc:	3⅞-3¾	3⅞-3¹³⁄₁₆	3⅞-3¾	4-3⅞	4-3
Swiss Franc:	2⅛-2¹⁄₁₆	2⅛-2	2⅛-2	2⅛-2	2½-1½
Yen:	⁵⁄₁₆-³⁄₁₆	⁵⁄₁₆-³⁄₁₆	½-¼	¹¹⁄₁₆-⁹⁄₁₆	n/a

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $392.20-392.50 Close: $391.90-392.40 High: $392.40-392.90 Low: $390.45-390.95 AM: $392.50 PM: $391.95

Krugerrand: $391.00-393.00 (£258.00-260.00)

Platinum: $402.00 (£265.45) Silver: $5.32 (£3.505) Palladium: $132.75 (£87.65)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for May 17	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.5830-2.5917	2.5830-2.5857	¼-⅛pr	2¼-2⅛pr
Brussels	47.509-47.690	47.509-47.587	13-10pr	36-31pr
Copenhagen	8.9244-8.9522	8.9244-8.9330	1⅞-1½pr	5¼-4½pr
Dublin	0.9683-0.9710	0.9686-0.9696	9-6pr	24-20pr
Frankfurt	*2.3122-2.3186*	*2.3122-2.3142*	*½-⅜pr*	*1½-1¼pr*
Lisbon	237.75-238.63	237.93-238.19	¼-¾ds	¼-¾ds
Madrid	193.12-193.75	193.12-193.36	26-35ds	67-84ds
Milan	2342.6-2350.3	2342.6-2344.4	5-7ds	17-18ds
Montreal	2.0710-2.0774	2.0757-2.0774	0.26-0.19pr	0.48-0.39pr
New York	1.5128-1.5160	1.5153-1.5160	0.09-0.07pr	0.24-0.21pr
Oslo	9.9204-9.9546	9.9204-9.9363	1¼-¾pr	3¼-2¾pr
Paris	7.8326-7.8573	7.8326-7.8385	1½-1⅛pr	4½-4pr
Stockholm	10.188-10.230	10.199-10.217	¼-¾ds	¼-¾ds
Tokyo	160.99-161.91	161.53-161.74	¾-½pr	2¾-2½pr
Vienna	*16.269-16.317*	*16.269-16.284*	*1-¾pr*	*1¼-1pr*
Zurich	1.8949-1.9032	1.8949-1.8973	⅝-½pr	2-1⅞pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2468-1.2476
Austria	10.74-10.75
Belgium (Com)	31.40-31.44
Canada	*1.3691-1.3696*
Denmark	5.8915-5.8945
France	5.1735-5.1745
Germany	1.5260-1.5270
Hong Kong	7.7347-7.7357
Ireland	1.5630-1.5645
Italy	1548.50-1549.50
Japan	106.62-106.72
Malaysia	2.4888-2.4898
Netherlands	1.7065-1.7070
Norway	*6.5478-6.5553*
Portugal	157.02-157.12
Singapore	1.4072-1.4082
Spain	127.60-127.65
Sweden	6.7335-6.7435
Switzerland	1.2525-1.2530

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5146-1.5172
Australia dollar	1.8903-1.8921
Bahrain dinar	0.5650-0.5770
*Brazil real**	*1.4812-1.4853*
China yuan	12.00 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.7100-0.7200
Finland markka	7.0775-7.1935
Greece drachma	364.0-371.0
Hong Kong dollar	11.7142-11.7235
India rupee	52.62-53.58
Indonesia rupiah	3494.00-3562.60
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4495-0.4595
Malaysia ringgit	3.7693-3.7733
New Zealand dollar	2.3042-2.2073
Pakistan rupee	52.52 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.4500-5.5000
Singapore dollar	2.1312-2.1341
S Africa rand (com)	*6.5410-6.6430*
U A E dirham	5.5000-5.6240

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	540	Land Secs	829
ASDA Gp	12,000	Legal & Gn	2,800
Abbey Ntl	2,300	Lloyds TSB	9,100
Allied Dom	2,500	Marks Spr	7,300
Argos	621	NatWst Bk	5,200
Argyll Gp	2,400	Nat Grid	6,100
AB Foods	722	*Nat Power*	*11,000*
BAA	1,500	P & O	3,500
BAT Inds	4,000	Pearson	1,900
BOC	1,900	Pilkington	1,300
BP	3,900	PowerGen	9,500
BSkyB	2,600	Prudential	8,800
BTR	10,000	REXAM	1,800
BT	9,800	RMC	403
Bk of Scot	7,300	RTZ	1,400
Barclays	4,500	Rank Org	3,100
Bass	2,000	Reckitt Col	1,900
Blue Circle	*3,400*	*Redland*	*3,300*
Boots	738	Reed Intl	1,100
BAe	2,900	Rentokil	3,000
BA	8,300	Reuters	1,900
Brit Gas	93,000	Rolls Royce	4,400
Brit Steel	3,200	Royal Ins	5,700
Burmah Cstl	548	Ryl Bk Scot	1,800
Burton	12,000	Sainsbury	15,000
Cable Wire	11,000	Schroders	103
Cadbury	2,800	Scot & New	429
Carlton Cms	2,000	Scot Power	1,300
Cm Union	1,500	Svrn Trent	291
Cookson	867	Shell Trans	3,500
Courtaulds	660	Siebe	386
Dixons	534	SmKl Bch	4,400
Enterpr Oil	2,200	Smith Nph	1,600
For & Col IT	2,900	Smiths Inds	250
GKN	860	Sthern Elec	801
GRE	3,700	Std Chartd	2,600
GUS	1,700	Sun Allnce	7,700
Gen Acc	*1,500*	*TI Gp*	*334*
Gen Elec	3,500	Tate & Lyle	866
Glaxo Well	13,000	Tesco	3,500
Granada	1,900	Thames W	2,100
Grand Met	5,500	Thrn EMI	452
Greenalls	2,500	Tomkins	7,600
Guinness	2,600	Unilever	1,600
HSBC	5,400	United Utils	1,000
Hanson	17,000	Vodafone	5,200
ICI	3,400	Whitbread	636
Kingfisher	*953*	*Wllms Hld*	*1,900*
LASMO	2,900	Wolseley	1,300
Ladbroke	3,100	Zeneca	1,800

WALL STREET

	May 17 midday	May 16 close
AMP Inc	42¾	42½
AMR Corp	94¼	94¼
ASA	45⅝	45¼
AT & T	62	62½
Abbott Labs	41¼	40⅞
Advanced Micro	19	18⅞
Aetna Life	71½	70⅞
Ahmanson (HF)	25¼	25
Air Prod & Chem	*58¼*	*58⅞*
AirTouch Comm	32	31¼
Alberto-Culver B	40	39⅝
Albertson's	39	38⅞
Alcan Alumnm	*32½*	*32⅝*
Alco Standard	63⅞	63½
Allied Signal	58⅛	58
Alum Co of Am	65⅞	65½
Amax Gold Inc	*6⅞*	*6⅞*
Amerada Hess	57	56¼
Amer Brands	42	41¼
Amer El Power	40⅝	40¼
Amer Express	*47⅝*	*46½*
Amer Genl Corp	34⅛	34¼
Amer Home Pr	53¼	53⅞
Amer Intl	91¼	91¼
Amer Stores	*35⅝*	*35¾*
Amer Standard	30⅞	30⅝
Ameritech	58¼	58
Amoco	72⅝	72¼
Anheuser-Busch	*69⅝*	*68¾*
Apple Computer	28¼	28⅞
Archer Daniels	19⅛	19⅛
Armco	5⅝	5½
Armstrng Wrld	*58*	*57⅞*
Asarco	33⅞	33¼
Ashland Oil	41⅝	41⅝
Atl Richfield	118⅝	117¼
Auto Data Pro	*38¼*	*39*
Avery Dennison	56⅝	56¼
Avon Products	90⅞	89⅞
Baker Hughes	30⅞	31
Baltim Gas & El	*27⅝*	*27½*
Banc One	35⅛	35⅛
BankAmerica	75¼	74¼
Bank of NY	51¼	50⅞
Bankers Tr NY	*74*	*72¾*
Barnett Banks	62¼	62¼
Bausch & Lomb	41½	41½
Baxter Intl	43⅞	43¼
Bectn Dicknsn	*83⅝*	*82⅞*
Bell Atlantic	64¼	64¼
Bell Industries	21¼	22
BellSouth	41½	41½
Black & Decker	*38⅛*	*38⅛*
Block (H&R)	34¼	34¼
Boeing	83⅛	82⅝
Boise Cascade	45⅝	45⅝
Bristol Myrs Sq	*83⅝*	*82⅞*
Browning Ferris	29⅝	30⅝
Brunswick	21¼	21¼
Burlington Nthn	86⅛	87¼
CMS Energy Corp	*29⅝*	*29⅝*
CNA Financial	98¼	97¼
CPC Intl	68	67¼
CSX	50⅛	51
Campbell Soup	*63⅞*	*62¾*
Can Pacific	20½	20⅞
Carolina Pwr	30½	30½
Caterpillar	69	68⅛
Central & SW	*27½*	*27½*
Champion Intl	47⅛	46¼
Chase Manhat	70⅛	69⅞
Chevron Corp	58⅞	58⅝
Chrysler	*68⅝*	*66½*
Chubb Corp	46⅝	46⅛
Cigna Corp	112⅛	112⅛
Citicorp	81½	80⅞
Clorox	84½	85½
Coastal Corp	39	38¼
Coca Cola	46½	45⅞
Colgate-Palmolive	79⅝	78⅝
Columbia Gas	*48⅛*	*48⅝*
ColumbiaHCA	54¼	54¼
Compaq Comp	47½	47¼
Comp Ass Intl	78⅞	78⅝
ConAgra	*41½*	*41¼*
Conrail	70⅛	70⅛
Cons Edison	28	28⅜
Cons Nat Gas	48⅛	48¼
Cooper Inds	41¼	41¼
CoreStates	40⅞	40⅞
Corning Inc	39⅞	39⅛
Crown Cork	46⅛	45⅞
Dana Corp	32½	32⅞
Dayton Hudson	100⅝	100⅞
Deere	41½	41½
Delta Air Lines	*84⅝*	*84½*
Deluxe Corp	36⅝	36⅞
Digital Equip	56⅞	56⅛
Dillard Dept St	39⅞	39⅞
Disney (Walt)	*61½*	*60⅞*
Dominion Res	39⅛	39½
Donnelley (RR)	35½	35⅝
Dover Corp	48⅞	49
Dow Chemical	*85⅞*	*85*
Dow Jones	39⅝	39⅝
Dresser	29½	29⅞
Duke Power	*48⅞*	*48⅝*
Dun & Brdstreet	60⅞	60
Du Pont	81⅝	80
Eastman Chem	65⅝	66½

	May 17 midday	May 16 close
Eastman Kodak	*76½*	*76½*
Eaton Corp	59⅛	59
Edison Int	16½	16⅝
Emerson Elec	85⅛	84⅝
Engelhard Corp	*25½*	*25⅝*
Enron Corp	40⅛	40⅛
Entergy	27⅝	27⅛
Ethyl Corp	10⅛	10½
Exxon	*84*	*83½*
FMC Corp	68	68
FPL Group	43⅞	43½
Federal Express	80½	80⅛
Fed Nat Mtge	*31⅝*	*31⅝*
First Bk Sys	61⅛	61⅝
First Union Rlty	7	7⅛
Fleet Finl Grp	44⅛	44⅛
Fluor Corp	*64⅞*	*64⅞*
Ford Motor	37⅛	36⅞
GTE Corp	45⅛	45
Gannett	68⅞	68⅞
Gap Inc Del	*32⅝*	*33⅝*
Gen Dynamics	64	64
Gen Electric	81⅛	79⅞
Gen Mills	55⅛	55⅝
Gen Motors	*56*	*55½*
Gen Reinsurance	140	140
Gen Signal	39⅛	39⅝
Genuine Parts	44⅞	45⅛
Georgia Pac	*77⅝*	*77½*
Gillette	56⅛	56⅝
Glaxo Wellc ADR	25⅞	26
Goodrich (BF)	38⅛	38½
Goodyear Tire	*52⅞*	*52⅛*
Grace (W&R)	76	75⅛
Grt Atl Pac Tea	36	35⅛
Great Wstn Fin	23⅛	22⅛
Halliburton	*52⅞*	*53⅞*
Harcourt General	52⅛	51⅞
Heinz (HJ)	33¼	32⅝
Hercules	58⅞	57⅛
Hershey Foods	*76⅝*	*76⅞*
Hewlett Packard	107⅛	106
Hilton Hotels	103⅞	102⅞
Home Depot	52⅛	52⅜
Homestake Mng	*19⅞*	*20*
Honeywell	52	52⅛
Household Intl	69⅛	68½
Houston Inds	22⅛	22⅛
Humana	23⅞	23⅝
ITT Corp	58⅛	57⅛
Illinois Tool	68⅛	67⅛
Illinova	26⅛	26⅛
INCO	*32⅞*	*33⅝*
Ingersoll Rand	42	41⅛
Inland Steel	22⅛	22⅛
Intel Corp	71⅛	71⅝
IBM	*109⅞*	*108⅞*
Intl Flav & Fr	49⅝	49⅞
Intl Paper	41⅝	41⅞
James River Va	25⅛	25⅛
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	*94⅞*	*94⅞*
Kellogg	71⅝	71⅝
Kerr-McGee	61⅝	61⅝
Kimberly-Clark	72	72⅛
Kmart	*10*	*10⅝*
Knight-Ridder	75⅛	75⅛
Lilly (Eli)	59⅞	58⅞
Limited Inc	20⅞	20⅛
Lincoln Nat	*47⅛*	*47⅝*
Litton	46⅛	47
Liz Claiborne	37⅛	37½
Lockheed Martin	83⅞	82⅞
Louisiana Pac	*26⅛*	*26*
MCI Comm	29⅞	29
Marriott Int	46⅛	46⅛
Marsh & McLnn	93⅝	92⅞
Masco Corp	*31⅛*	*31⅛*
May Dept St	46⅞	46⅞
Maytag Corp	22½	22⅞
McDonalds	48	47⅞
McDonnell D	*99⅞*	*99⅞*
McGraw Hill	47⅛	47⅛
Mead Corp	55⅞	54⅞
Medtronic	54⅛	55
Mellon Bk	*55⅝*	*54⅞*
Melville Corp	38½	38⅛
Merck Inc	63	62¼
Merrill Lynch	62⅞	61¼
Microsoft	116⅞	117⅝
Minnesota Mine	68⅝	67⅞
Mobil Corp	112⅞	111⅛
Monsanto	150⅞	149⅞
Morgan (JP)	86⅛	86⅝
Motorola Inc	63½	63⅞
Natl Semi	16⅝	16⅛
Natl Service Ind	*38⅛*	*38⅛*
Navistar Int	10⅛	10⅛
NY Times A	33½	33⅛
Newmont Mng	60⅞	60⅛
Niag Mohawk	*8⅝*	*8⅝*
Nike B	94½	94⅛
NL Industries	14⅛	14⅛
Noram Energy	10⅞	10⅞
Nordstrom	50⅞	51½
Norfolk Sthrn	87⅛	86⅛
Nthn State Pwr	47⅛	46⅞
Norwest Corp	35⅞	35⅝
Nynex Corp	47⅞	47⅛
Occidental Pet	20⅛	20⅛
Ohio Edison	22	21⅝

	May 17 midday	May 16 close
Oracle	35⅝	35
Oryx Energy Co	16⅞	16⅞
Overseas Ship	19⅛	19⅛
Owens Corning	39⅝	39⅝
PHH Corp	54½	54⅝
PPG Industries	51⅛	51½
PNC Bank	30⅞	30
PP&L Res	23⅞	23⅛
Paccar Inc	*49⅝*	*49⅛*
Pacificorp	20	20
Pac Enterprises	26⅛	26⅝
Pac Gas & Elect	22⅝	22⅝
Pac Telesis	*33⅝*	*33⅞*
Pall Corp	27⅝	27
Parker Hannifin	42⅞	43⅝
Peco Energy	25⅞	25⅛
Penney (JC)	*50⅞*	*50⅞*
Pennzoil	44	44
Pepsico	68⅞	68⅛
Pfizer	67½	67⅛
Pharm & Upjhn	*40⅞*	*40*
Phelps Dodge	71½	73½
Philip Morris	93⅞	91⅛
Phillips Pet	40⅞	39⅞
Pitney Bowes	*48⅞*	*48⅞*
Polaroid	45	44⅞
PriceCostco	20⅞	20⅝
Procter & Gmbl	88	87⅛
Providian	*45*	*45*
Pub Serv E & G	26⅛	26⅛
Quaker Oats	35½	35⅛
Ralston Purina	59⅞	58⅝
Raychem Corp	79⅛	78⅝
Raytheon	51½	52
Reebok Intl	29⅞	29⅝
Reynolds Metals	55⅜	55⅜
Rockwell Intl	*56½*	*55⅛*
Rohm & Haas	68⅛	68
Royal Dutch	149⅞	151½
Rubbermaid	28⅝	28⅝
SBC Comms	49⅞	49⅞
Safeco Corp	33⅝	34
St Paul's Cos	*52⅞*	*52⅛*
Salomon Inc	43	42⅝
Sara Lee Corp	32	31½
Schering Plough	57⅝	56⅞
Schlumberger	85⅞	85⅞
Seagram	35⅛	34⅛
Sears Roebuck	50⅝	50⅝
Shell Trans	85⅞	84⅛
Sherwin Wilms	45½	45⅝
Skyline Corp	26	25⅞
Snap-On-Tools	47⅞	47⅞
Southern Co	23⅝	23½
Sprint Corp	43⅛	43⅝
Stanley Works	62⅝	62⅞
Sun Company	32	31½
Sun Microsys	58⅞	58⅞
Suntrust	73⅛	73⅞
Supervalu	31½	31½
Sysco Corp	32½	32⅛
TRW Inc	93⅛	93
TCC Inds	2⅛	2⅝
Tandem Comp	13⅛	13⅝
Tandy Corp	56⅛	56½
Teledyne	39⅝	39⅝
Temple Inland	51¼	49⅞
Tenneco	55⅝	55⅝
Texaco	83⅝	82⅛
Texas Inst	54½	53⅛
Texas Utilities	41⅛	41½
Textron	86⅛	85⅝
Time Warner	42	41⅛
Times-Mirror A	45⅝	44⅝
Timken	40½	40⅝
Torchmark	42⅝	42⅝
Toys R Us	29⅝	29⅛
Transamerica	70⅞	70
Travelers	61½	60⅞
Tribune	71⅞	71½
Tyco Labs	39⅞	39
UST Inc	32⅛	31⅛
UAL	222½	220⅝
US Inds	23	23
USX Marathon	22	22
Unicom	27⅛	28
Unilever NV	134⅞	134⅝
Union Camp	*54½*	*54½*
Union Carbide	43½	43⅛
Union Pacific	70⅝	69⅞
Unisys Corp	8½	8⅛
USAIR Group	*17⅜*	*17⅝*
USF&G Corp	15⅞	15⅞
US Life	30⅛	29⅞
United Tech	110⅞	109⅞
Unocal Corp	31½	31⅛
VF Corp	59½	59
WMX Tech	35⅛	35⅛
Wal-Mart Stores	24⅛	24⅝
Warner-Lambert	110⅝	111
Wells Fargo	240⅞	239⅝
Westinghouse El	18⅛	18⅛
Weyerhaeuser	48⅞	48½
Whirlpool	57	57½
Whitman	25⅝	25½
Winn Dixie	34⅝	33⅛
Woolworth	*20½*	*20⅝*
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	52⅝	51⅛
Xerox	154⅛	153⅛
Yellow Corp	13⅛	12⅞

هكذا من الأصل

صورة من الاصل

STEPPING OUT 36

Regular savings schemes for best long-term returns

WEEKEND MONEY

OVER THERE 37

Richard Thomson on bank charges in New York

Sids left cold by prospect of price curbs

Caroline Merrell on why small investors are switching their attention from British Gas

The thrills and spills of stock market investing were all too apparent this week to investors in privatisation shares. While PowerGen and National Power shareholders were celebrating windfalls, holders of British Gas were left fearing for their dividends.

Several stockbrokers are advising British Gas investors to sell, even though the shares have dropped more than 20 per cent this week in the wake of the decision by Clare Spottiswoode, the gas regulator, to introduce price curbs.

While her proposals deliver cost savings of around £30 to £50 to the average gas consumer, they are not so kind to the 1.7 million small investors, the Sids who have shares in British Gas. On the day of the announcement itself, the share price dropped 27p, wiping £1.2 billion off the value of the company. The share price of British Gas is now only 42.5p above its privatisation price of 135p ten years ago.

The strength of the intervention by the regulator shocked the markets and is likely to cast a pall over the forthcoming pricing of Railtrack and the outlook for BT.

The regulator's action, which will cut the profits of British Gas by up to £850 million, will remind investors of some of the problems of investing solely in privatised companies. Research shows that ten years of popular capitalism have not extended wider share ownership beyond an average holding of £1,000. Most small investors only hold the shares of one company.

British Gas shares have been at the top of the sell list for stockbrokers for a number of months. Financial advisers do not think this week's fall in share price heralds the turning point for gas shares.

Instead, they believe there may be even worse news around the corner, especially as it appears the company will have to cut dividends. The stated wish of Richard Giordano, the British Gas chairman, to rid the company of Sids appears about to be granted — though probably not in the way he intended.

> The strength of the intervention by the regulator really shocked the markets

The future profitability of British Gas will depend on the outcome of any investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission into the proposed price-capping. An MMC investigation is likely to take several months and will jeopardise the proposed demerger of the company into two separate companies — TransCo International and British Gas Energy.

Peter Hollins, research analyst with Albert E Sharpe, a regional stockbroker, said: "We have been aggressive sellers of British Gas over the last few months. We are planning to continue to sell the shares."

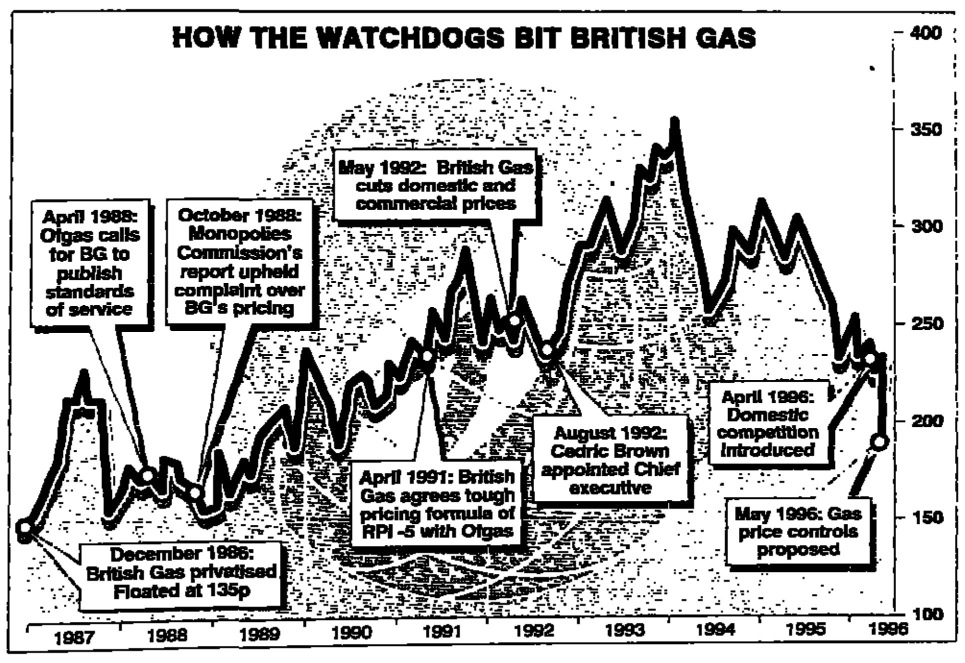
Mr Hollins believes the MMC would side with the regulator about the price curbs. Despite the MMC's independence from the Government, he claims: "We are taking a rather conspiratorial view. This Government cannot afford to give tax cuts to the electorate. So giving them cheaper gas bills might be one way of winning them over."

He also thinks Clare Spottiswoode's action could be the start of much tougher regulatory controls on all the privatised utilities. "The worst is yet to come," he added.

Eric Hathorn, director of Henderson Crothswaite, the broker, said the action had implications for the Railtrack sell-off. He said: "This will effect all regulation. Railtrack is a politically unpopular sale anyway, especially with the Labour Party, which may soon be in power.

"It would be easy to see a situation where a regulator could curb its profitability because it is concerned about safety on the railways."

Even if Railtrack did make good long-term profits, he pointed out, Labour could introduce a windfall tax on that profit.



GILL ALLEN

Double trouble: Clare Spottiswoode's proposals hurt British Gas shares and may prove painful for BT

Gas blast is shaken off by market

BRITISH GAS and other privatisation issues may have struggled to get off the ground this week, but the market overall held steady. (Karen Zagor writes).

The FT-SE 100 inched gradually higher at the start of the week, helped by a strong performance on Wall Street. Inflation fears were allayed by encouraging economic news, lifting the Dow Jones industrial average 150 points in three days. Having opened at 3,754.4, the FT-SE 100 initially lost ground on Monday, falling 15.2 points, but this was followed by gains of 20.5 on Tuesday and 16.5 on Wednesday. On Thurday, the FT-SE 100 slipped 22.6, but it recovered 36 yesterday to close at 3,789.6.

Utilities take real pounding

WHEN British Gas started its nosedive, it took BT and most of the utilities sector with it, including many of the privatised electricity companies.

Among electricity stocks, Yorkshire Electricity lost 37p to 749p on the week, Southern Electric was 38p lower at 782p and London Electricity eased 32p to 747p.

Water shares were also hit, with Anglian Water down 33p to 543p on the week, Yorkshire Water off 7p to 635p and South West Water 12p lower at 660p.

Even British Telecom was not immune. Fear of a more stringent regulatory environment sent the shares to a 52-week low of 326p on Tuesday. To make matters worse, BT's chairman announced this week that the company cannot survive if next year's price cap is similar to the current one.

After announcing a 13.4 per cent gain in pre-tax profits to £3 billion in the year to August 31, the company also said it has no plans to pay a special dividend or to buy back shares. Yesterday, BT shares were quoted at 340p.

The spectre of regulatory changes initially fell across National Power shares, which lost ground at the beginning of the week.

But reports of a £1-a-share special dividend and a 49 per cent jump in regular dividend payments helped lift the shares to 547p yesterday, up from 535p at the start of the week

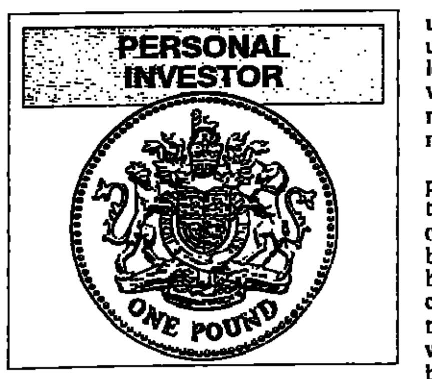
PowerGen shares were expected to rise this week. On Tuesday, the market was abuzz with speculation that the generating group planned to announce a share buyback or special dividend. The next day, PowerGen revealed details of its 40 per cent dividend increase and £400 million share buyback. However, shares in the company languished, starting the week at 544p and ending at 532p.

KAREN ZAGOR

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

Socialism by the back door

PERSONAL INVESTOR



Mass share ownership was supposed to help ordinary people to identify with industry. This is little comfort to the 1.7 million of us who have foolishly stayed loyal to British Gas. Its shares have dropped 44 per cent since the start of last year, almost wholly thanks to attacks by revolutionary bureaucrats. Having seen how private enterprise could deliver low prices to consumers and rising returns to investors, shareholders are now experiencing the impact of a return to detailed and unpredictable state control.

The regulators' role has changed a lot since Gas was privatised in 1986. Prices were then limited to rise by 2 per cent less than inflation for five years. After that, the prospectus explained, "further cost reductions will become more difficult over time" and the company could even apply for price controls to be abolished. But regulation developed. Instead of being just watchdogs, regulators transferred previous efficiency gains to customers at each price review and let the incentive process start again.

Last week, the Director-General of Gas Supply put forward a radical new philosophy, claiming that the latest Ofgas proposals for the TransCo pipeline business would provide "the best possible value for customers". Huge future efficiency gains were assumed and big cash price cuts proposed. Profits would plunge even if targets were met.

Incentives are being deleted. Ofgas becomes a purchaser of services on behalf of the State, consumers or users of the "common carriage" pipes. The nominal owner becomes merely a low-profit contractor. Be warned. If endorsed by the MMC, this will be a precedent for BT's wires, for National Grid and, come 2001, for Railtrack. It would offer a Labour government socialism without ownership, hitting millions of investors and future pensioners. At British Gas, the effects are already dire.

On the usual regulatory cycle, this is not the right time to sell. The share price usually bottoms at the stage of maximum uncertainty, when the regulator threatens and the company has yet to work out how it can manage. To make British Gas worth much more than today, however, shareholders will need British Gas to win a much better deal from the MMC and to start a new strategy to put shareholders first.

In 1986, British Gas shares were sold at ten times earnings with good prospects for growth. Today they sell at the same rating but profits are set to fall badly. The only thing sustaining the shares is the dividend, which yields 9.2 per cent, against 6.8 per cent at privatisation. City analysts now urge the company to slash the dividend by up to half. This would be part of the plan to lop off the loss-making gas trading arm, victim of an earlier piece of bureaucratic re-engineering. Such a cut might suit Gas managers but not shareholders.

The last thing investors want is to plough money back into TransCo International, the big company that would include oil and gas exploration and production but be dominated by the TransCo distribution business. It is not a good investment to combine low returns with high risks. As the markets have shown, investors want to withdraw their risk capital from this business. If they do so by selling British Gas shares, the price will keep falling until speculators reckon it worth a punt.

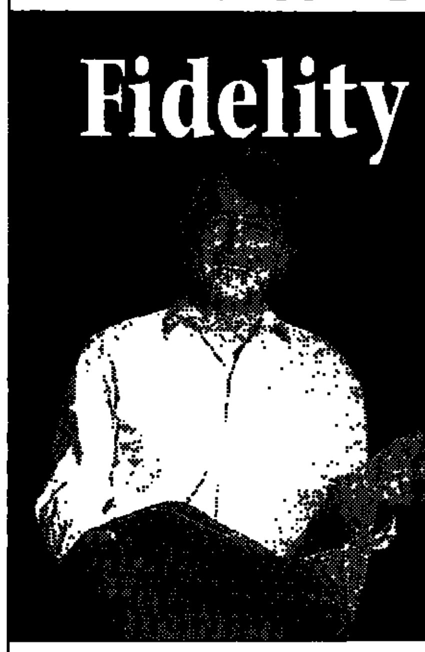
The alternative is for the board to act on shareholders' behalf and avoid those losses. It should look again at the the share split and perhaps create three businesses instead of two. In any case, it should progressively substitute debt for shareholders' funds in TransCo, preferably debentures that would effectively control the TransCo assets when its licence expires in 15 years time. That should please the regulator, who believes TransCo would be more cheaply financed with debt rather than shareholders' funds. Bond markets would establish the true cost.

At least £3 billion cash should be returned to shareholders, via rising dividends or, as fund managers would prefer, early capital repayments. Sid should stop playing the patsy.

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

NEW INVESTMENT TRUST LAUNCH

Fidelity Asian Values PLC.



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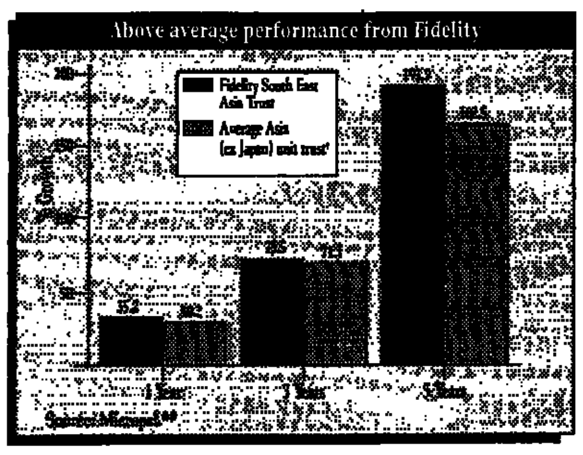

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††Asiamoney fund managers' poll 1995 for individual fund managers in Asia Pacific equities. *The MSCI All Countries (Combined) Far East Free ex Japan Index to 1.5.96. **Micropal, offer to offer with net income reinvested to 1.5.96. †Micropal Sector: Far East (excluding Japan) Specialist Equity Growth (non-specialist) unit trusts. This advertisement is not an offer or invitation to apply for shares or warrants of Fidelity Asian Values PLC (the "Company"). Applications for shares or warrants in the Company may be made solely on the basis of information contained in the Prospectus and Mini Prospectus. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. The value of investments and income from them may fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Shares listed on stockmarkets in Asia can be more volatile and less marketable than in more developed stockmarkets. Changes in exchange rates between currencies may cause the value of the investment to diminish or increase. Investment in warrants is likely to involve a high level of gearing such that a relatively small movement in the price of the ordinary shares to which the warrants relate may result in a disproportionately large movement, unfavourable as well as favourable, in the price of the warrants. Fidelity only provides information about its products and will not give investment advice based on individual circumstances. Issued by Fidelity Investments International, regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority. Registered office: Oakhill House, Tonbridge Road, Kent TN11 9DZ. TMFI

Karen Zagor on a Treasury measure hurting the most vulnerable in our society

Home income blow for pensioners

TONY WHITE

Harold Ingham and his wife have lost money as a result of measures introduced to the advantage of the younger and more wealthy

A tax measure designed to help the less affluent is actually hurting the most financially vulnerable sector of society — non-taxpaying pensioners — as Harold Ingham, a reader of *The Times*, has discovered.

He says: "My wife and I, aged 81 and 84 years, invested in a home income plan five years ago and have been most satisfied. However, we have been disturbed by the effect of the reduction of income tax announced last November. Our income from the plan has been at the monthly rate of £129.81, well below the level on which income tax is charged, and this is very important to us. But now, entirely as a consequence of the tax reduction, this income has been reduced to £127.75, equal to about £25 per annum.

"There must be many like us whose income has been affected in this way and all are elderly, as home income plans are normally restricted to persons over the age of 75. We thus suffer as a result of measures introduced to the advantage of the younger and more wealthy."

Home income plans are designed to allow older people to realise value from their homes before they die, recognising the fact that for most people a home is their single biggest asset. The plans are only recommended for people in their seventies and above.

There are two main types of plan. The most popular are income plans, which allow older people to remortgage their property and use the proceeds to buy an annuity to give an income for life. They remain legal owners, and can remain in their own homes.

The problem is that when the Government decided to reduce the basic rate of tax from 25 per cent to 24 per cent, one of the side-effects was to reduce the amount of relief give on mortgage interest payments (Miras). For taxpayers, the effect of less relief on interest payments is offset by gains from lower tax on savings, leading to higher annuity payments. But non-taxpayers do not get the benefit of better annuity rates, while they do feel the impact of reduced relief on their mortgage interest payments.

Cecil Hinton, the managing director of Hinton & Wild, a firm of independent financial advisers specialising in home income plans, says: "I'm afraid Mr Ingham is right. We have been arguing this with the Treasury, along with Age Concern, but so far we have failed. We are going to battle on in the summer before the next Budget. It is the non-taxpayers who need help most who are slightly worse off."

Lady Greengross, director-general of Age Concern, expressed her anxiety after the Budget changes were announced. In a letter to the Chancellor, she said: "Age Concern is aware that a number of older people find these home income plans a useful way of releasing equity from their home in order to provide them with extra income to pay for repairs, improvements, care services or generally to improve their standard of living.

"We are concerned, however, that if in the future the Government's goal of a basic rate of tax of 20 per cent is achieved, there will be a more substantial drop in income of about £125 per year, or £2.50 per week."

The Treasury is showing little sign of relenting and reinstating tax relief to 25 per cent for home income plan holders. A Treasury source said: "It would be a very odd situation if we were to freeze the level of subsidy for non-taxpayers while reducing the benefits for taxpayers."

Meanwhile, at a time when it has become obvious that the Government can no longer afford to pay the care costs for an ageing population, it seems inevitable that more people will turn to home income plans.

Although the schemes were dogged by controversy in the Eighties, when unscrupulous salesmen sold plans tied to high-risk investments, they appear to be coming back into favour.

Ship (Safe Home Income Plans) was set up in 1991 by the four main plan providers — Home & Capital Trust, Stalwart Assurance, Carlyle Life and Allchurches — to establish a framework of self-imposed regulations.

This may help to protect planholders and restore the reputation of the industry, but there is also the question of whether these schemes will ever allow for the release of enough equity to fund the high cost of care.

> The Treasury is showing little sign of relenting and reinstating tax relief to 25 per cent for home income planholders

Dilemma for locked-in investors

SOCIETY WATCH

Millions of people with savings accounts in the societies that are to float or are in the process of being taken over are facing a dilemma.

These investors have to keep their money with the society to ensure that they benefit from the maximum share or bonus allocation. As the flotations and mergers of the Halifax, Woolwich, National & Provincial, Northern Rock, and Alliance & Leicester will not all be completed until the end of next year, this effectively ties up their savings for a long time.

The question is how do members maximise the returns on their savings in the meantime, bearing in mind that they could get nothing if they move their savings before the deals are finalised.

The answer to this question is not simple, as is the case with much of the small print governing building society takeovers and flotations. Much will depend on how the particular society has chosen to structure the deal.

The Northern Rock, for instance, announced its plans for conversion on April 3, together with the establishment of a charitable foundation that will aim to help the local community. The society plans to seek member approval for the deal at the beginning of next year. If it goes ahead, members will benefit from a free distribution of shares. The details of how the distribution will be worked out have yet to be announced.

Savers do not yet know whether the number of shares they receive will be linked to the amount they had saved with the society at the time of the announcement. Savers with the Northern Rock, particularly those earning a very low rate of interest on its instant access account could jeopardise their membership rights by switching their money around in the society.

Andy Kuipers, Northern Rock assistant general manager, said: "After our conversion proposal announcement, the only customers who could switch between share accounts (which are now closed to investors) were existing members who had two or more existing share accounts in existence before April 3." He added: "They should still be very careful as they may put at risk any membership benefits which might arise."

The other societies in the midst of merging or floating are adopting a slightly different attitude to those wishing to switch accounts. The Halifax will allow members to switch money between share accounts and not jeopardise membership rights. However, it does point out that the membership must be continuous. A spokeswoman said: "They can move accounts and it does not affect membership." Alliance & Leicester and Woolwich are adopting the same attitude towards their qualifying members.

CAROLINE MERRELL

A QUESTION OF MONEY

Check small print when you insure pension contributions

What happens if you fall ill and can no longer afford to pay your contributions towards your pension? *Weekend Money* looks at the small print.

Q What is a waiver of contribution?

A It is an insurance policy which you can add to your pension to cover you if you cannot work and are unable to make regular contributions. About one in five of the estimated six million people who have a personal pension take it out.

Q How much does it cost and is it worth buying?

A The fee is between 1 and 5 per cent of the premium, although the average is 2 per cent and depends on your age, occupation and health. It is certainly advisable to buy cover, but you need to check how comprehensive it is.

Q There must be some catches. What are they?

A Some companies have clauses in their contracts which pay out only if you are so ill that you cannot work at all. The ideal policy is one which will pay out if you cannot work in your own occupation — ie, the one you were trained for. Some stipulate that the policy pays out only if you cannot find a suitable job, while others, including Equitable Life, and two of the other top performing pension funds, Scottish Life and Scottish Amicable, will pay out only if you are unable to do any job.

Q How does this work in practice?

A In effect, this means that under some policies, if a surgeon got arthritis in his hands, he would not be covered as he could still, theoretically, find work as a receptionist. Doug Brodie of Master Adviser, the independent financial advisers, says: "It takes no account of a profession and purely focuses on the ability to work in any scenario. Nobody should take out a pension waiver cover unless it is what is called an "own occupation" waiver. The cost to insurance companies is minimal, but the difference to policyholders who become unable to work at their 'own occupation' would be enormous."

Q So how do I know what cover I have?

A You should ask your pension provider to clarify the details. The following pension companies have an "own job" policy. Standard Life, which is included on the list, changed its policy this week in response to complaints, and Mr Brodie hopes those left off the list will do the same. The list includes: Abbey Life, Britannia, Clerical Medical, Commercial Union, Eagle Star, Friends Provident, General Accident, Legal & General, Lincoln National, M&G, MGM, NPI, National Mutual, Norwich Union, Old Mutual, Prudential, Scottish Mutual, Scottish Widows, Scottish Equitable, and Standard Life.

Q What do I need to watch out for?

A You should ensure your policy covers you for premiums until your retirement. Otherwise you may be unemployed but unable to keep up contributions. If you intend premiums to increase with inflation or be index-linked, you should check that the policy will increase this way too.

Q Are all professions covered?

A You need to check with the company providing the policy, because some very high-risk occupations may not be covered or may attract high premiums. If you have followed a career and developed very specialised skills it is very important to have the "own occupation" clause, since finding new employment may be difficult and you may be too old or unwilling to go for retraining.

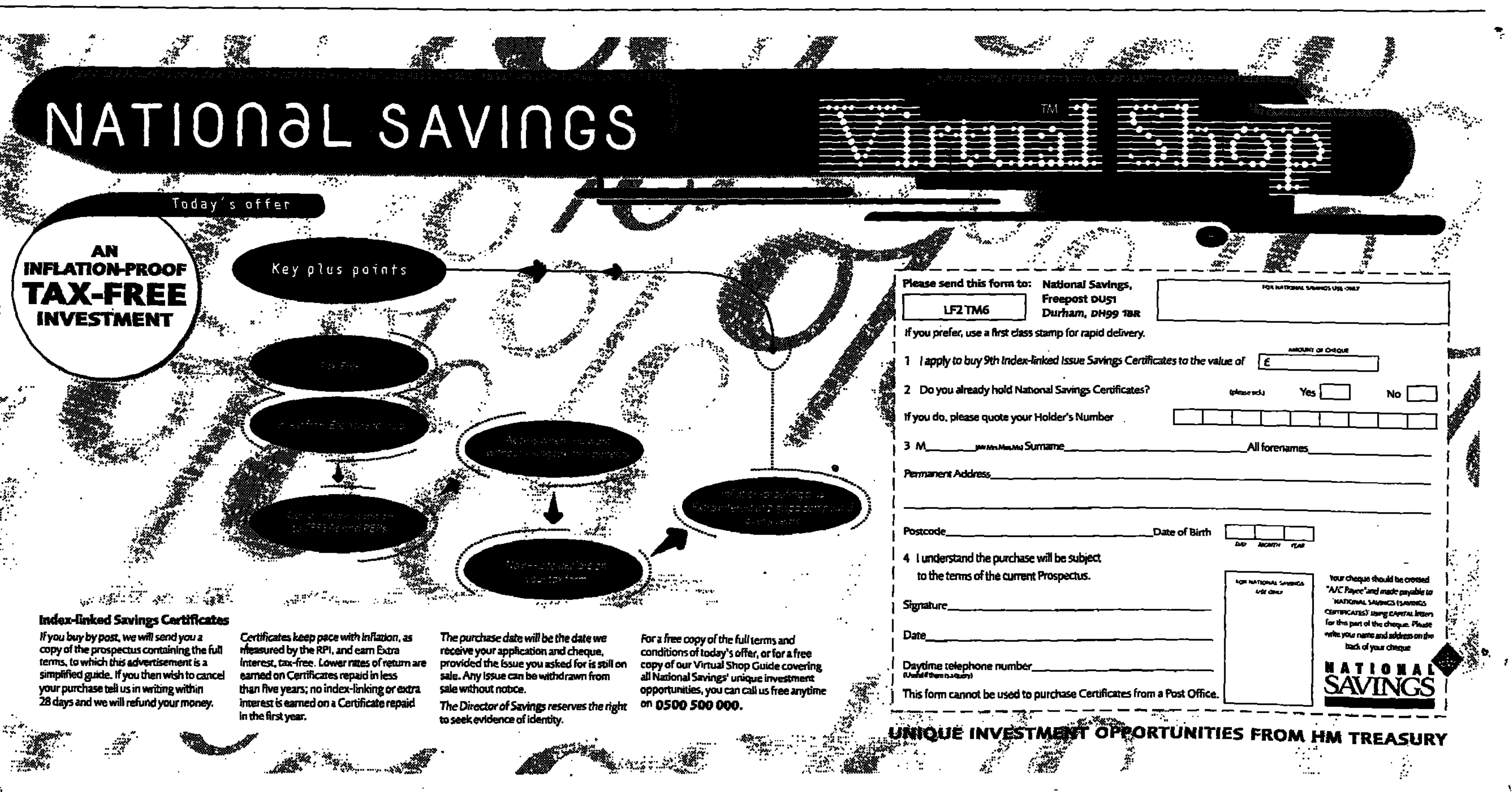
Q What about risks such as dangerous sports?

A A number of companies will not give you protection if you make a habit of doing dangerous sports. This may even include skiing. Some insurers exclude claims which might arise during or after pregnancy. Terms are often so ambiguous that it is very important to check exactly what is covered.

Q My pension company is on the "own job" list. Does this mean I am fully covered?

A You need to check that you have the extra protection, since waiver of premium policies are not compulsory. In addition, most companies delay paying any premiums for six months, during which time you are expected to make contributions from your own resources.

MARIANNE CURPHEY



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Come to the cabaret

COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

The cabaret at the Building Societies Association conference dinner featured an impromptu ditty based on some of the industry's overriding obsessions, including carpetbaggers. But although the delegates may have sniggered at the song, they find the subject of speculators anything but entertaining. Those societies who say they wish to remain independent could talk of little else than the need to curb those who commit the heinous crime of opening an account in the hope of a payout.

Fortunately, however, their attempts to impose their views on the eminently sensible Angela Knight, the Treasury Economic Secretary, were unsuccessful. This piece of good news for savers should cause the societies pause for thought.

They should realise no government would be likely to stand in the way of the distribution of £20 billion-worth of legally gotten gains to more than ten million savers and borrowers. This is the amount of largesse that will be spread among the population by the societies now headed for the stock market or takeover.

The societies should also recognise that no rules will impede speculators, while the societies' own behaviour does everything to encourage them.

Take the Birmingham Midshires, for example. It is one of the most vociferous lobbyists for the strengthening of the anti-carpetbagger two-year rule, under which no saver of less than two years' standing with a society can receive a cash payout on a takeover or flotation. The society this week at first denied, then confirmed, its interest in acquiring the West Bromwich, its smaller neighbour, in a charade calculated to send savers with sufficient funds scurrying to both societies.

Instead of finding ways to protect their societies — and comfortable jobs — building society chiefs should be thinking of ways to retain customers.

For Peter Davis, chief executive of the Prudential is coming, cheque book in hand, ready to both buy societies and steal their customers for his new bank. When Mr Davis says he wants to be a building society, it may be as much of a threat as a compliment.

Small cost

THE home income plan scandal of the Eighties left pensioners with huge losses. Its tragic effects continue, with many of its 80-year old victims yet to be compensated.

Now the appeal of the safer type of plan is being damaged by Treasury obstinacy. As we report on page 30, the reduction in mortgage tax relief has reduced the payouts for non-taxpayers.

A simple amendment restoring the value of the tax relief to its previous level would cost little and would benefit some of the most deserving among our elderly. To gain a little extra cash, they have practised the self-help which the Government likes to promote. They now deserve a small concession.

Bidder stalks West Brom

Caroline Merrell

on the takeover manoeuvres at two Midland building societies

Angela Knight refused to give a ruling on carpetbagging

Bid speculation was rife this week at the Building Societies Association annual conference in Birmingham. In particular, the spotlight fell on two Midlands-based societies — Birmingham Midshires and the West Bromwich.

The former has been known to have been interested in the smaller West Bromwich for some time. Any merger would produce the sixth biggest society — making it the most dominant in the Midlands, with a total of 168 branches. Angela Knight, the Treasury Economic Secretary, who was also at the conference refused to bring in legislation to stop people opening speculative accounts.

The £7.7 billion Birmingham Midshires made its first overture to the £1.5 billion West Bromwich five weeks ago. Its advances have fallen on stony ground.

Andrew Messenger, chief executive, said: "The West Bromwich is committed to remaining a strong, wholly independent mutual building society. We have a rosy future and have absolutely no intention of being taken over." A merger between the two societies would not necessarily bring a bonus to the 300,000 members of the West Bromwich. A mutual society can only pay a bonus of up to 5 per cent of the balances. If it wants to pay out more, it has to ask its members for permission — which could be extremely hazardous, as the society risks alienating its own membership.

Both these societies are takeover targets for the large number of predators looking to buy. Neither can afford to offer the type of mutuality packages offered by the Bradford & Bingley, Nationwide, Britannia and Yorkshire, and neither would be able to float.

The West Bromwich members and the 800,000 members of Birmingham Midshires could stand to gain more if they were taken over by another bigger institution.

The Prudential and Lloyds Bank, through Cheltenham & Gloucester, are known to be on the acquisition trail. The Prudential has been linked to a number of societies, including the Woolwich and Birmingham Midshires. The Pru is likely to want to buy a larger nationwide society which has a strong brand.

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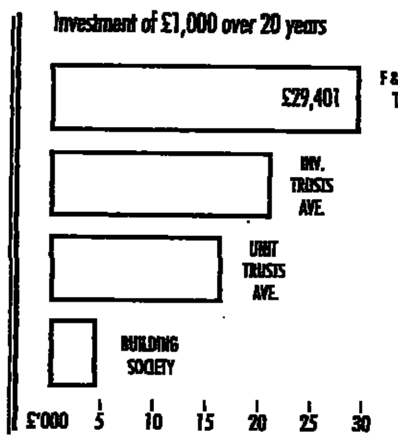

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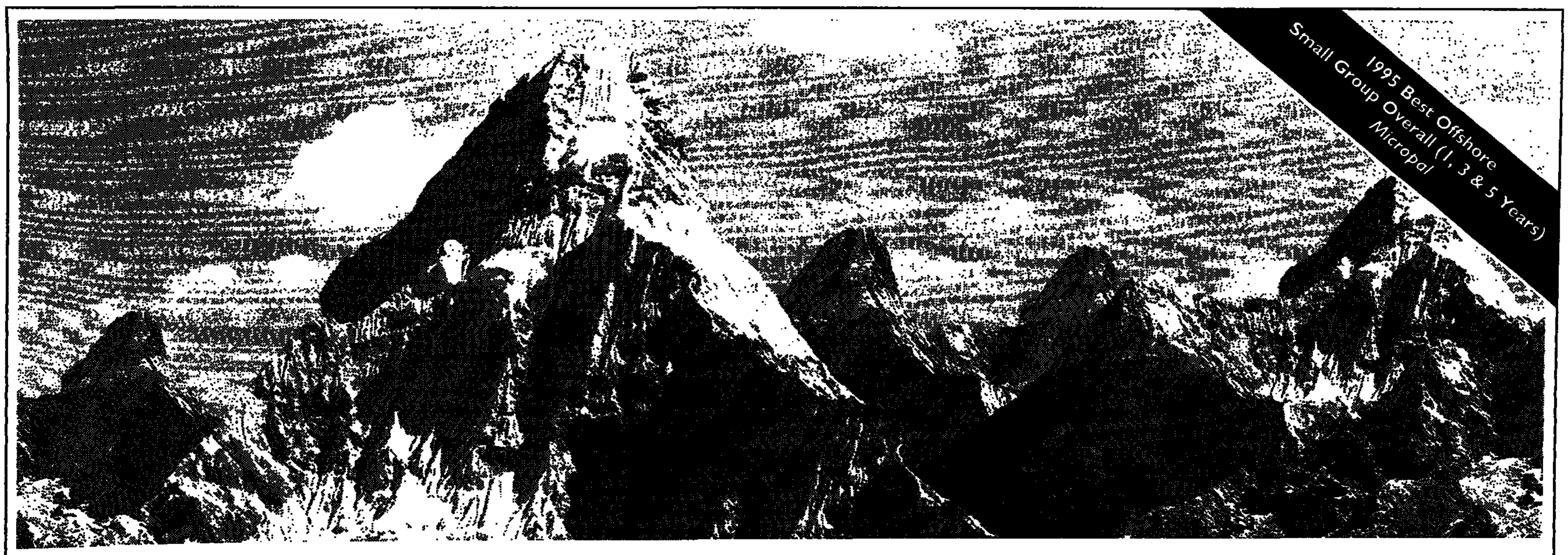

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Emerging Companies	+711.0	1 out of 36	+147.5	AAA
American Growth	+1098.4	1 out of 15	+145.2	AAA
Far Eastern Growth	+459.0	1 out of 19	+123.4	AAA
Japanese Growth	+47.1	9 out of 86	-	AAA
European Growth	+168.1	4 out of 7	+95.2	-
UK Growth	+289.8	1 out of 30	+104.5	AAA
Asian Smaller Markets	+91.8	13 out of 96	-	AAA
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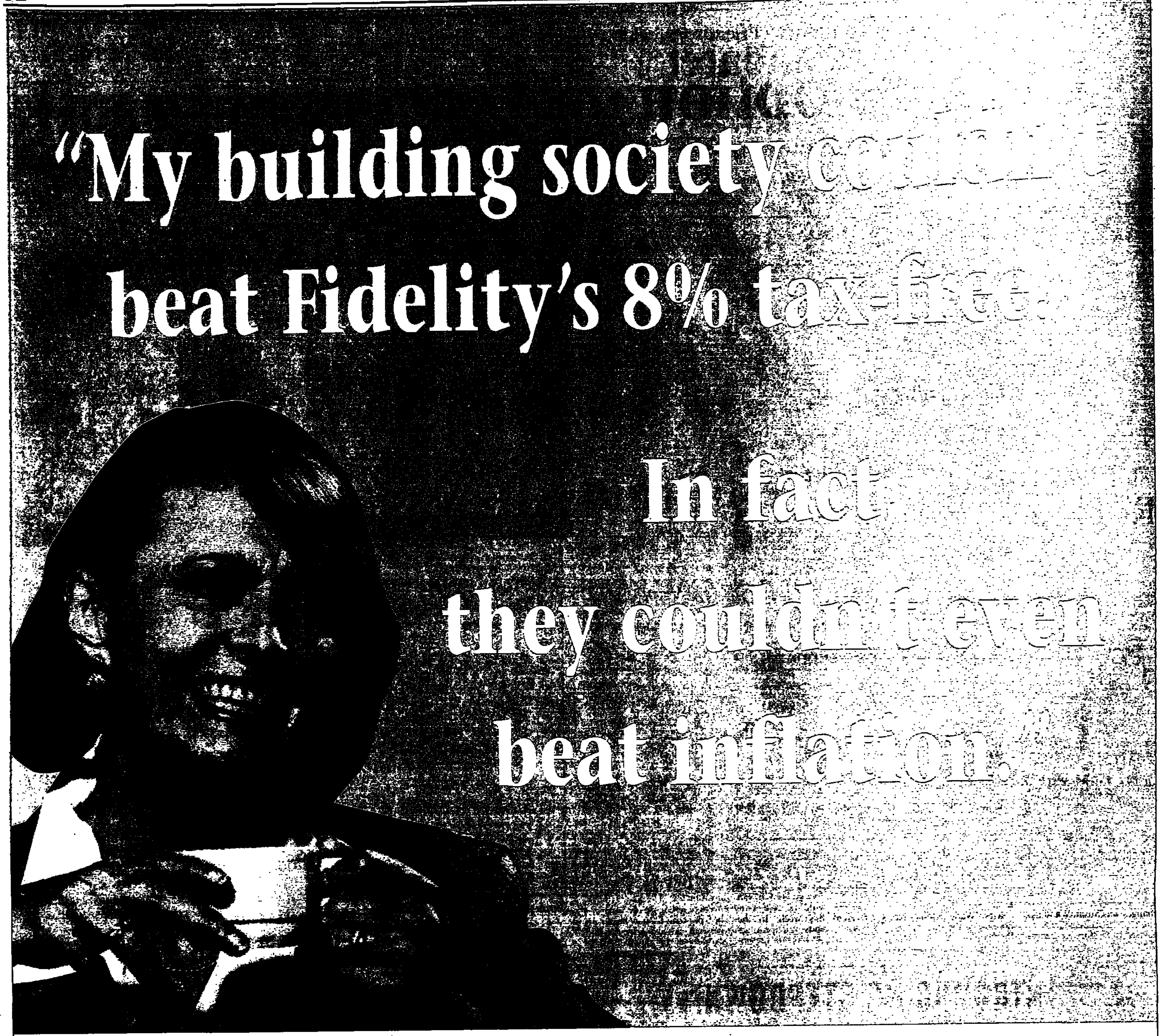
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Woolwich	3.5%	2.7%	2.1%
Inflation	**2.7%**	**2.7%**	**2.7%**
Instant Access Accounts**			
MoneyBuilder Cash	**5.5%**	**4.2%**	**3.3%**
Abbey National	2.9%	2.2%	1.7%
Halifax	2.9%	2.2%	1.7%
Woolwich	2.4%	1.8%	1.4%
Inflation	**2.7%**	**2.7%**	**2.7%**

Source: MoneyFacts May '96 edition. **On balance of £5,000. Unlike a bank or building society, the value of your investment in MoneyBuilder Income PEP will fluctuate.

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Anne Ashworth on an unfriendly move by Friends Provident

The zero option

BARRY GREENWOOD

Susan Waddington objects to the timing and lack of explanation for rising management charges at Friends Provident

Rivalling the debate on the size of boardroom salaries in recent months has been the question of how much a fund management firm should receive for its services.

The focus recently brought to bear on the initial and annual charges deducted from investments in unit trusts and personal equity plans (Peps) has forced many groups to decrease their fees, sometimes to zero. Legal & General, for example, last month abolished the initial charges on all its unit trusts. These cuts are a victory for investors who have, for years, seen their returns diminished by high charges.

The fees and charges debate, however, seems to have gone unheard at Friends Provident, the life insurance group founded by Quakers. Last month investors were astonished to learn that, entirely against the trend elsewhere, annual management charges at 11 unit trusts were being raised.

They include the group's income trusts and its Stewardship ethical trusts. There will also be increases to 5.75 per cent from 5 per cent in the initial charge on four trusts.

Among those angered by the brief note announcing these changes was Susan Waddington, an independent financial adviser from Bury in Lancashire. The clients of Mrs Waddington's firm, Wyndale Life & Pension Consultants, have holdings in the Friends Provident trusts and she herself has a Stewardship trust Pep monthly savings plan.

Mrs Waddington believes that the increases are inspired by Friends Provident's wish to improve its earnings, so as to make itself attractive to a buyer. In common with other mutual life insurance companies, Friends is seen as a likely takeover target, with Halifax Building Society and NatWest Bank being mentioned as possible bidders.

Mrs Waddington objects not only to the suddenness of the change in charges, but also to the lack of explanation given. She is also suspicious of the timing of the move, made just after the beginning of the tax year. She said: "People have just set up their 1996-97 personal equity plans. If they decide that they object so much to the higher annual management fees that they wish to cash in their plans, the rules mean that they cannot take out another Pep until the beginning of the next tax year. As a result, they are locked in."

She wrote to Friends Provident, asking the company to justify its action, but is not satisfied with the reply she received this week. In the letter, Friends Provident argues that its move is reasonable, as charges have remained the same since the launch of some of the trusts in the late Eighties.

It cites the "additional costs associated with complying with the industry regulators' requirements" and the expense involved in ensuring that the investments in ethical trusts meet all the necessary green or other criteria.

Mrs Waddington, however, points out that, although all groups must abide by the rules imposed by the investment regulatory bodies, most have been able to drop their fees.

John Woodard, marketing manager of Friends Provident, defended his group's action to *The Times*, saying: "We could have raised our charges four years ago when many of our competitors were doing so. We're getting flak now because we held off then."

He said that the charges on Friends Provident ethical trusts were not out of line with other trusts in the sector, which have initial charges ranging from 3.75 to 6 per cent.

But Jason Hollands of BESt Investment, the independent Pep analysis group, pointed out that all groups carry out extensive research when choosing investments. He said: "The average initial charge used to be 5 per cent. It's now nearer 3 per cent. It's also a bit rich to raise both the initial charge and annual management fee."

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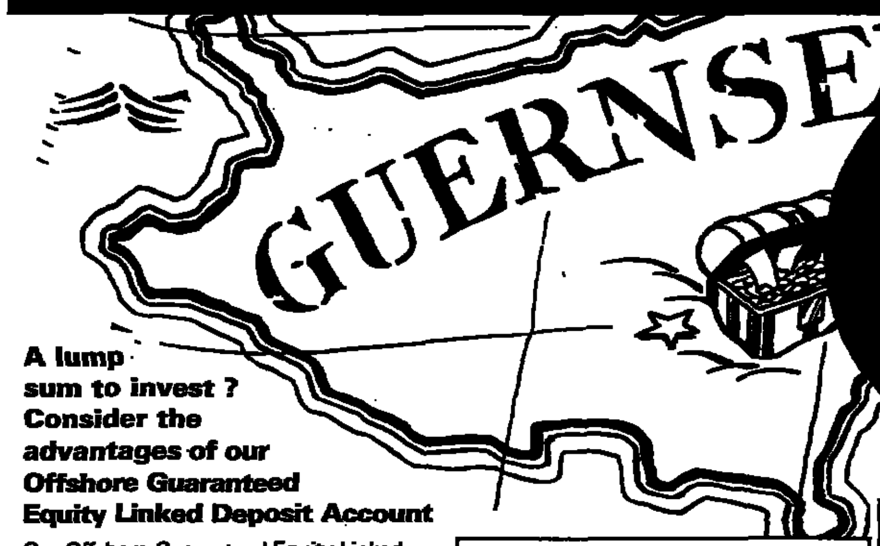

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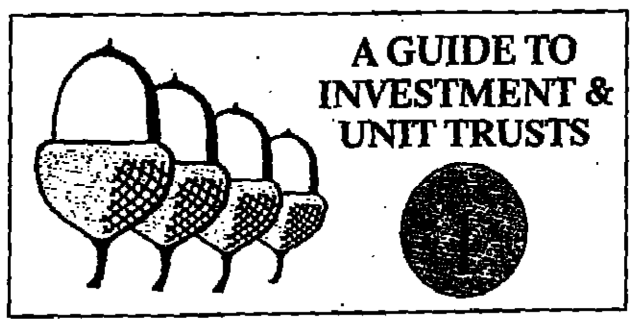

A GUIDE TO INVESTMENT & UNIT TRUSTS

Helen Pridham introduces a new series on unit and investment trusts

Everyone knew their savings would ultimately be safe with Jimmy Stewart in Frank Capra's *It's a Wonderful Life*

This week's slide in the price of British Gas shares has underlined the risks of investing in individual shares, privatisations or not. With interest rates on building society accounts at rock bottom, though, there is little attraction in stashing all your cash away there either.

Less than 10 per cent of the population invest in unit and investment trusts which pool the money of small savers in a fund that is normally invested in a portfolio of shares by a professional investment manager. Typically they will hold shares in 50-100 companies, so the risk is spread widely.

They are low cost compared with insurance products and flexible — you are not locked in for a specific investment term, though as with all share related investments you should normally think in terms of five to ten years to get the best results. They will take investments from about £500 or £1,000, or monthly savings of £30.

On average, unit and investment trusts have outperformed building society deposits over the medium to long term. Personal equity plans (Peps), which allow tax-free holdings, have attracted increasing numbers of traditional building society investors.

The snag is that most unit and investment trusts do involve some risk. The value of your investment can fall, though usually only temporarily. While spreading money across a number of shares means you will not lose out if one company goes bust, it does not protect you against a general fall in the stock market.

One of the advantages of investing through unit and investment trusts is that they overcome the problem faced by many small investors, such as those in privatisations, who have found that while buying shares is relatively easy, it is much more difficult to decide on the right time to sell. In a unit or investment trust, the fund manager takes the buying and selling decisions for you.

Stuart Valentine of ProShare, the organisation which promotes wider share ownership, says: "The trouble is that many people were force fed a diet of privatisation issues and they didn't really consider how they were going to deal with them after acquisition. For most first-time equity investors, unit and investment trusts are a more suitable alternative."

Many people come to unit and investment trusts when they reach retirement and have a lump sum from their pension scheme to invest. Financial advisers, such as Kean Seager of Whitechurch Securities, often recommend putting a portion of this money into unit or investment trusts to provide long-term growth of income and capital during retirement.

He says: "Naturally, my recommendations depend on a client's individual circumstances, but as a starting point I would normally suggest a split of around 20 per cent cash, 40 per cent lower-risk investments such as fixed interest securities and with-profits bonds, and 40 per cent unit or investment trusts."

It is not only novice stock market investors for whom unit and investment trusts are attractive. Private client stockbrokers now recommend trusts rather than shares to many of their clients. Hambos Bambi of Quilter & Co says: "Shares are only suitable if you have at least £100,000 to invest. For clients with less capital, we believe unit and investment trusts provide better diversification of risk."

At Gerrard Vivian Gray, the stockbroker, Mark Searle says: "Management of unit and investment trust portfolios is now the fastest growing part of our business."

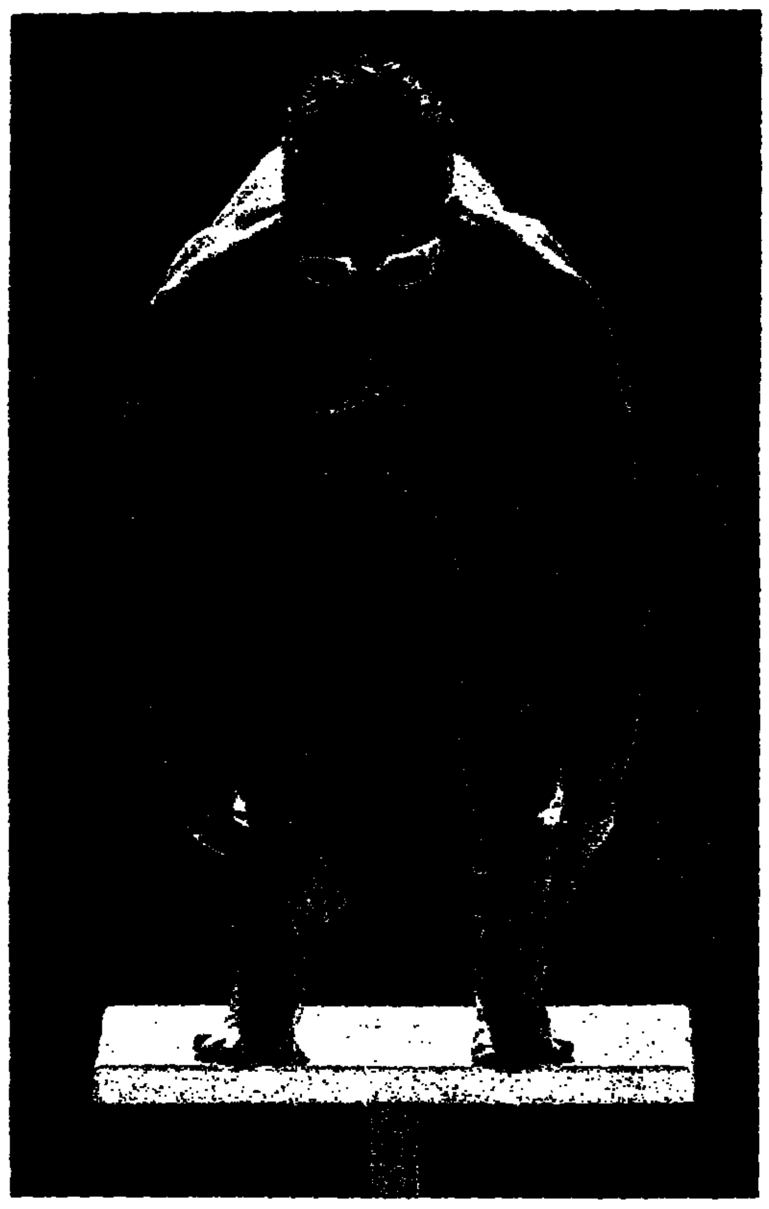
Investors are frequently unsure about the differences between unit and investment trusts and they are also sometimes confused with investment bonds. This is not surprising as there are many similarities. They all offer a choice of professionally managed investment funds. Investment bonds, however, are the least suitable choice for most people because they are less tax efficient. They are single premium life insurance policies and the life companies must pay capital gains tax on the funds, even though the investor is not liable.

The tax position of unit and investment trusts is identical. They are not subject to tax on any capital gains made from the sale of assets in their portfolios. Investors are liable to capital gains tax, but only if their gains exceed their annual exemption limit, currently £6,300. Income from the trusts is paid net of tax, with a tax credit of 20 per cent which can be reclaimed by investors who are non-taxpayers. Basic-rate taxpayers have no more tax to pay, but a 40 per cent taxpayer will be liable to a further 20 per cent in tax on the gross dividend. If a trust is held within a Pep, all dividends and capital gains are tax-free.

Charges are similar on both trusts. Initial purchase costs are normally between 1 and 5 per cent and annual management charges are about 1 per cent to 1.5 per cent.

Unit trusts are divided into units and the value of each unit rises and falls in line with the value of the shares in the fund. Investment trusts are companies with a fixed amounts of capital. Investors buy shares in the company. The price of the shares reflects the investment trust's assets and supply and demand for the shares. The share price may stand at a discount or a premium to the value of the assets in the trust.

☐ *The Unit Trust Information Service is on 0181 207 1361 and the Association of Investment Trust Companies information line is on 0171 431 5222.*



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Oasis and the art of investment

Robert Miller on a new Islamic fund based on the principles of Sharia

TRUST WATCH

DR ABDUL Sattar Abu Ghuddah of the Islamic Fiqh Academy in Jedda is not a generally well-known investment figure in this country. On Monday that could change when Oasis, an Islamic international equity fund, is rolled out, initially to the estimated two million-strong British Islamic community, but with the prospect that the concept may eventually catch on with a wider UK audience.

Flemings, one of the City's leading international investment banks, has worked on Oasis, a Luxembourg umbrella fund, for almost 18 months. As a member of the Oasis Sharia Supervisory Board, Dr Ghudda and two colleagues, Justice Mohamed Taqqi al-Uthmani and Dr Nazih Hammad, will ensure that every investment in the fund's international portfolio conforms to the strict principles of Sharia, the Islamic law. The three men have strong links with the Islamic Fiqh Academy — Fiqh is Islamic jurisprudence.

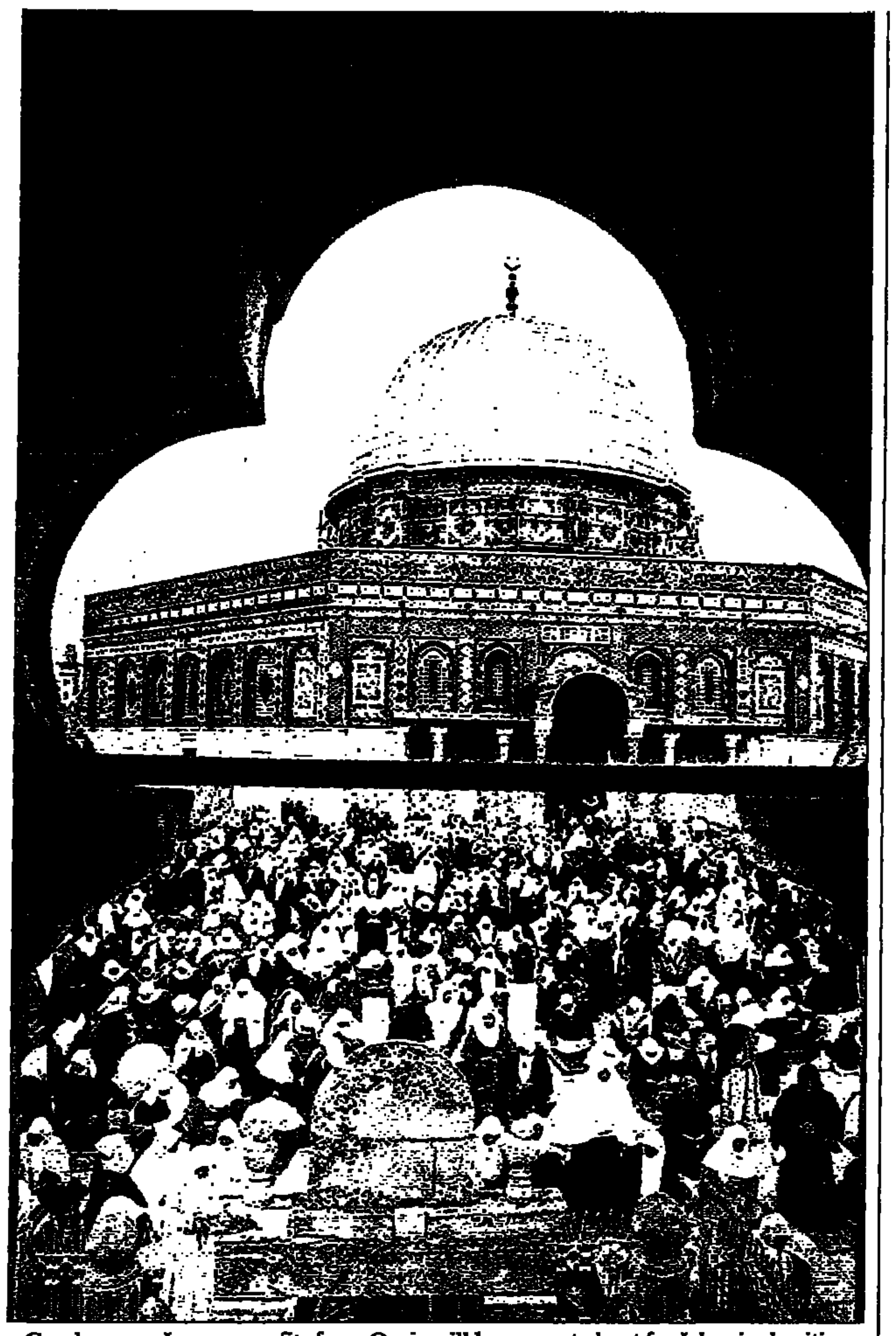
The basic principles of Sharia are not dissimilar to those of the more familiar UK ethical funds. Certain activities, such as alcohol and gambling, are totally unacceptable.

But Sharia is different in one key aspect and that is on the question of usury. Oasis, which could add an emerging markets sub-fund to the present international equity one, will avoid Western financial services companies — so banks and insurers are out. In the same way, it is not posssible to open an interest-bearing building society or bank current account. Usury in this sense covers interest paid and interest earned. Similarly, companies that have borrowed heavily will be excluded.

Neil Honebon, the Oasis manager, will measure the level of a company's gearing against the Morgan Stanley Capital International Index average of 56 per cent. To qualify for inclusion in the Oasis portfolio of up to 150 companies that includes Toyota, Cable and Wireless and Roche, the Swiss drugs combine, the firm in question will have to have gearing significantly below that figure.

Even with the supervisory board, some of the Oasis profits might breach the strict Sharia code, so the fund's deeds include a "purification" process separating out such moneys to donate to Islamic charities. Flemings estimates that the total annual cost of being Islamically correct is unlikely to be more than 1 per cent. To minimise the performance impact of such deductions, purification by taking away the amount representing interest received by companies in the portfolio will be carried out weekly. Shane O' Riordain, the Flemings manager responsible for promoting Oasis, says the group's investment performance should overcome the cost of Sharia compliance.

Although Oasis makes its UK debut on Monday, it was launched in February, initially to the $100 billion international Islamic investment market, dominated by Saudi Arabia which accounts for half of the world total. The other Gulf states are also important Islamic markets, followed by the Far East and then Europe.


Good causes: Impure profits from Oasis will be separated out for Islamic charities

The minimum investment in Oasis, which has to date raised $7 million out of a target range of $100-$150 million, is a hefty $50,000. Flemings will, however, allow pooling via authorised independent financial advisers with several investors combining to make up the minimum.

Oasis details: 0990 662 747.

Jupiter's demanding target

THE new Jupiter UK Special Situations unit trust, launched this week, has set a demanding target by choosing just 40 or 50 companies to invest in, from a universe of 1,000 or more.

Alan Miller, the fund's manager, says he is seeking the most undervalued, high quality companies for inclusion in the portfolio and to that extent their sector or speciality is irrelevant. About 75 per cent of the proposed portfolio will come from the smaller companies category with the remainder from the FT-SE 100 index.

Mr Miller is particularly keen on companies where the management has a significant stake in the firm and thus its future performance. He will also look for consistent year-on-year free cashflows and superior profits growth.

The new Jupiter unit trust, which is "fully qualifying" in Pep terms, has set a modest initial target, which is to raise just £5 million. "If the fund performs as we expect it to, we hope to attract about £50 million within 12 months on the back of a sound investment performance," says Mr Miller, who has previously worked for Gartmore and Hermes Investment Management. In spite of political uncertainty and a looming general election in less than 12 months' time, Mr Miller believes the UK stock market is "firmly underpinned".

Minimum investment is £500 for the straightfoward unit trust or £2,000 for the Pep. Alternatively there is a £100 a month savings scheme attached to the Pep.

The charges for the Jupiter unit trust are at the top end of the industry scale with a 5.25 per cent initial fee and an annual charge of 1.5 per cent. More details on 0500 050 097.

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*Figures for Witan's performance since 1924 are sourced from Henderson Touche Remnant and are based on net asset values at 1.7.24 and 29.2.96, assuming net income reinvested. †Source: AITC Services Ltd to 29.2.96 based on share price total return on a mid market to mid market basis with net income reinvested and excluding transaction costs. ††Source: Micropal to 1.3.96 based on a higher rate building society account with net income reinvested. Please remember that past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The value of an investment and the income from it can fall as well as rise as a result of market and currency fluctuations and you may not get back the amount originally invested. Tax assumptions may change if the law changes, and the value of tax relief will depend upon your individual circumstances.

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Please send me details of the Mercury Emerging Markets Fund. Ref: TMEM21/96
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ASSET MANAGEMENT
BRITAIN'S LEADING INVESTMENT HOUSE

*Source: Micropal. All figures are to 1st May 1996 based on the selling price with net income reinvested. Since launch in August 1993 the Fund has achieved a total return of 32.9%. Comparative ranking: Micropal Unit Trust Emerging Markets sector. The 2% discount applies to the offer price of units. ■ The value of investments may fluctuate and is not guaranteed. ■ Past performance is no guarantee of future performance. ■ Please note that this is a high-risk fund and is therefore suitable only for those investors prepared to accept the above-average volatility and risk inherent in emerging markets investment. ■ Changes in exchange rates may cause the value of an investment to fluctuate. ■ This advertisement relates to the packaged products of, and is issued by, Mercury Fund Managers Ltd (regulated by IMRO and the [illegible] Authority), the unit trust management arm of Mercury Asset Management [illegible] or telephone 0171-629 6071.

Keep it regular

Paul Slade says savings schemes can give small investors the best long-term return

No costly slip-ups: it pays to keep in step with your investments for the best rates

Most people's investment concern is not deciding what to do with a lump sum of £5,000, but finding the best home for the £25 a month they have left over after paying the bills.

Even with as little as this to invest, your choice need not be limited to the bank and building society. Unit trusts and investment trusts operate savings schemes which will accept as little as £25 a month, pumping your money into the stock market, where you should be able to get a better return in the long term.

Savings accounts

Having for a while concentrated all their efforts on savers with four-figure sums, many building societies are again offering regular savings accounts. Some have a minimum monthly investment of as little as £1. Most of these accounts require that you make a contribution each month and penalise those who fail to do so.

Restrictions may also be imposed on withdrawals, with some societies only allowing you access to your cash at the end of a fixed term. The Bradford & Bingley, for example is currently paying a rate of 6.75 per cent on its three-year term Monthly Saver account, where the minimum saving is £10 and the maximum £100. No withdrawals are allowed until the three years are up. The Nationwide's Bonus Saver account permits six withdrawals a year. But to reward those who leave their money untouched and make 11 consecutive payments, it pays a 3.25 per cent bonus on top of the normal rate of 2.75 per cent. Minimum monthly investment is £1, and there is no maximum.

The Scarborough Keepsafe Bond, a two-year term account, pays 7 per cent (minimum monthly investment £15, maximum £150). Again no withdrawals are allowed until the end of the term.

Unit trusts

Traditionally, equity markets have provided a better return than bank and building society savings. According to Micropal, the fund performance monitors, someone placing £25 a month in an average UK growth unit trust over the five years to May 1, 1996, reinvesting income as they went along, would find their investment was now worth £2,236. That compares to £1,695 from the average building society 90-day account. The top-performing UK growth trust over the same period would have given a return of £2,942. Foreign & Colonial runs one of the most popular investment trust savings schemes, with 110,000 investors.

Anyone contemplating starting a trust savings plan should be clear that switching from deposits to equities is a substantial step up in risk. However, regular savings should be safer than placing a lump sum on the stock market. This is thanks to a process known as pounds cost averaging. This allows you to avoid the risk of committing all your funds to the market just as it peaks. Drip-feeding money into the market gradually helps to smooth out short-term peaks and troughs.

Like any equity investment, you should be prepared to commit the money in a unit trust or investment trust savings scheme for at least five years. The beauty of collective investment schemes such as unit trusts and investment trusts is that they spread your risk across many different companies. Most small investors will be best off with a UK unit trust as this is the market they will feel most comfortable with.

☐ *See page 34 for more information on unit and investment trusts*

TOP TRUSTS

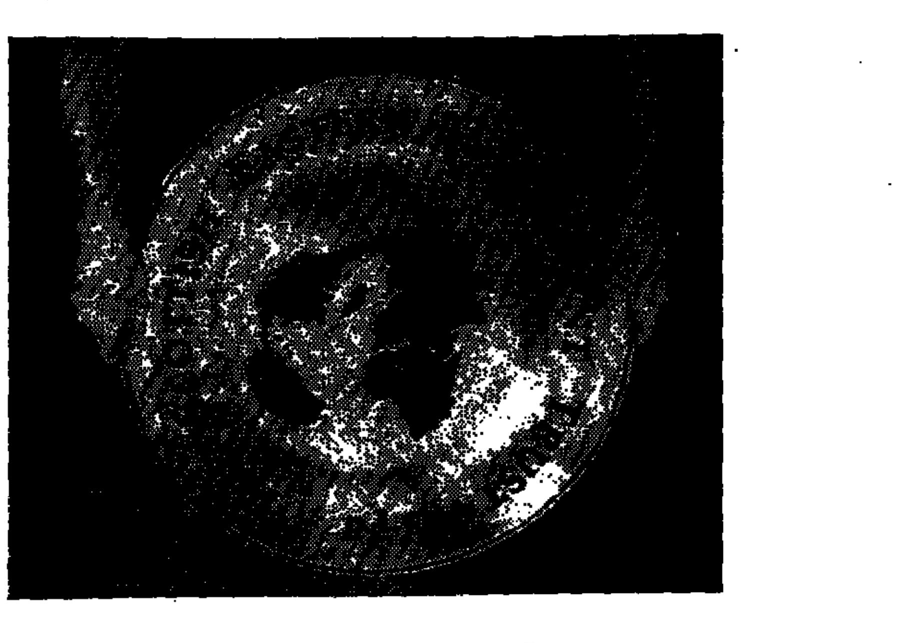
Top 10 UK equity growth *unit trusts with return on* monthly £25 investment over five years to May 1, 1996.

TRUST	Value after 5 years
Jupiter UK Growth	£2,942
PM Equity Growth	£2,834
Fidelity Special Sits	£2,787
Cred. Suis Fellowship	£2,741
Fidelity Recovery	£2,706
Pembroke Growth	£2,617
Schroder UK Ent	£2,603
Fidelity UK Growth	£2,532
Barc Unic Spec Sits	£2,530
Mart Currie UK Grth	£2,514

Bid-to-bid prices, net income reinvested

Source: Micropal

SCOTTISH EASTERN



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Source: Templeton and Datastream

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BALANCES**	GROSS† PA	NET PA	GROSS† PA	NET PA
£50,000+	6.20%	4.96%	6.03%	4.82%
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I/we would like my/our interest paid: Monthly: ☐ Annually: ☐
☐ Please send me information on the One Year Option Bond.

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Please send to: *One Year Option Bond*, Bristol & West Building Society, FREEPOST, Bristol, BS38 7HP.

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*References to Best Rate positions are correct as at 15/05/96. Source: Moneyfacts Money Master. †Gross rates of interest do not take account of deductions of income tax. If you are eligible to receive your interest without deduction of tax you should register on Inland Revenue form R85 which is available in all the Society's branches. Interest rates shown as net are purely illustrative. Net rates shown here assume the rate of income tax of 20%. Interest is credited or paid out at period(s) in accordance with the terms and conditions of the account. ††"Fixed" refers to the One Year Option Bond Fixed (Issue 2). "Variable" refers to the One Year Option Bond (Issue 1). Withdrawals of capital from the fixed rate One Year Option Bond are not permitted. Bristol & West Building Society is a member of the Building Societies Association and of the Building Societies Ombudsman Scheme and subscribes to the Code of Banking Practice. Bristol & West Building Society, PO Box 27, Broad Quay, Bristol, BS99 7AX.

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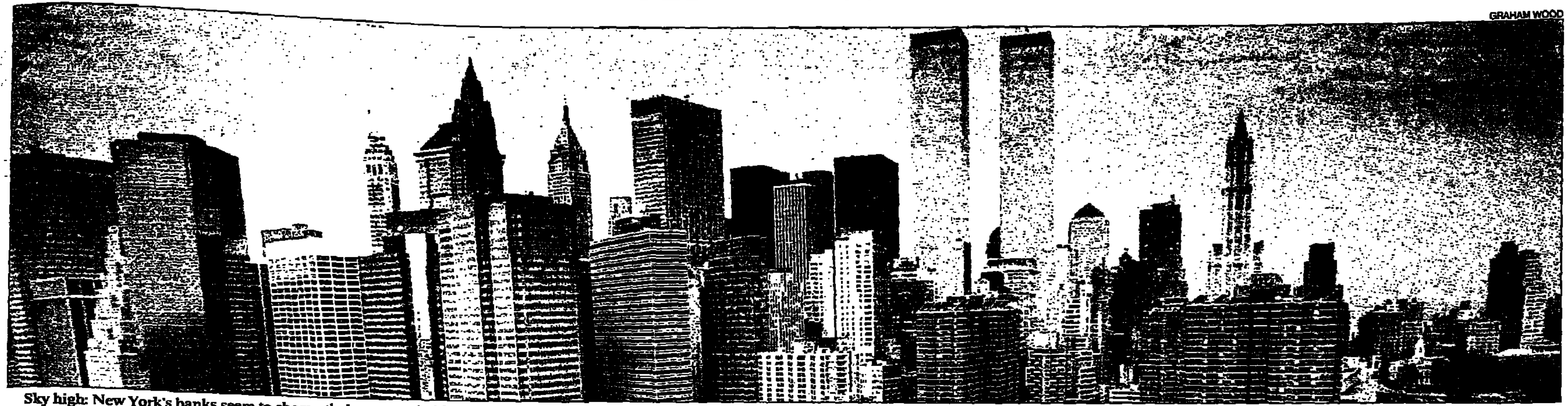

Sky high: New York's banks seem to charge their account holders with impunity

American dream or a nightmare for customers?

As the free banking era closes in Britain, **Richard Thomson** looks at the US example

Free banking, enjoyed by the British for close to two decades, is under threat as the high street banks prepare to launch special current account packages with annual fees and added extras.

The aim is to increase revenues from those customers who stay obstinately in credit and make no money for the bank.

British banks have long cast envious eyes on their transatlantic counterparts who charge their customers with impunity. But the high price of US banking does not necessarily ensure good service.

I never thought I would ever come across a bank that would turn money away — until I tried to open an account in America. But then, banking in the US is a strange, Alice-in-Wonderland experience where nothing is quite what you expect and the usual attitudes seem topsy-turvy to say the least.

Most Americans have tales of frustration and inefficiency in dealings with their banks. The system seems creaky, antiquated and poor value for money. It is particularly infuriating because, once you have an account, you are charged for everything.

The biggest fee is simply for the privilege of maintaining the account — the kind of fee that Barclays and others are introducing in Britain.

Free banking is an alien concept in the US. Most New York banks charge about $9.50 a month on a basic account, although this is often waived if the balance is kept at more than about $5,000. Bizarrely, the fee goes shooting up if you have a very large balance. On deposits of $25,000 or more, Chemical Bank charges a savage $25 a month.

But the charges do not stop there. You have to buy your cheque book — usually around $20 for 200 cheques. Then you are charged every time you write a cheque — around 35 cents each time.

Customers are charged the same amount for using the cash machine, but if you use a cash mashine belonging to a different bank you are likely to be charged up to $1.

It is enough to make you think that British banks, for all their inefficiencies, really aren't so bad after all.

The lesson to be learnt is that high charges don't necessarily make for better banking

The lesson to be learnt from the US, unfortunately, is that high charges don't necessarily make for better banking. If you were hoping that the service you get from Barclays or any other high street bank will instantly improve when they start charging you for every breath you take inside their branches, think again.

What services can you expect from a high-charging US bank? Not much. Most inconvenient is probably the lack of standing orders. For regular payments such as rent or utilities bills, you have to write a cheque each month because the bank will not do it automatically.

And cheques, by the way, take an unspecified number of days to clear, whether they are payments or deposits.

An American friend paying in a tax-refund cheque recently was told that it would take at least a week to clear. To get it cleared faster she had to go through a tiresome procedure of filling in forms and producing ID. Yet again, the bank did not seem particularly keen to take her money.

As a sop to their hard-pressed customers, many banks make special offers of things like free insurance, but the offers are usually so mean they seem more like an insult to the intelligence.

My own bank, Chase Manhattan, recently offered me free life insurance of $1,000. The trouble is that $1,000 hardly goes anywhere in New York City. The real point of the offer, of course, was to try to get me to buy a whole lot more insurance from the bank, which would then have received a nice commission from the insurance company.

Savings accounts tend to fare a little better, although you are still paying handsomely for the privilege of letting the bank have your money. Chase charges $5 a month for its ordinary savings account. For term accounts, the penalties for early withdrawal can be very heavy indeed.

Some of the US inefficiency is due to the fear that customers will misuse their accounts, perhaps by borrowing money and not repaying it.

New York banks seem to be particularly vulnerable to this — people from elsewhere in the US report that their banks work slightly better and are a little less suspicious of their customers. Yet few people feel they get such satisfactory service from their banks that it is worth all the charges they have to pay.

One can only hope that this is not the model the British banks have in mind as they start to crank out their new bells-and-whistles high-charging accounts.

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†The above rate of 7.75% is the gross* annual rate payable on investments of £50,000 and over. The gross* monthly rate is 7.50%. For investments of £20,000 to £49,999, the rates are 7.50% gross* annually, 7.25% gross* monthly. On investments of £2,000 to £19,999 the rates are 7.25% gross* annually, 7.00% gross* monthly. The minimum investment is £2,000.
*Without UK income tax deducted. The rate of interest is fixed until the Bond matures on the 1st October, 2001. Interest is payable either annually or monthly. No withdrawals or further investments allowed during the term. Interest will be payable net of the applicable rate of income tax (which may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers) or gross subject to the required registration. Full Terms and Conditions are included in the product leaflet available on request.
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THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

Wealth of guides on money matters

HALF A MILLION people will start to claim their state retirement pension this year, joining the ten million others in the UK. Help the Aged has produced a guide that explains for new and long-standing pensioners how the state retirement pension works.

The 20-page booklet details for those nearing retirement how to get a pension forecast, and includes special arrangements for women, divorcees, widows and widowers. The leaflet answers such questions as: do I pay income tax on my pension, and can I claim my pension if I go to live abroad? For a free copy of *Questions On Pensions*, write with an SAE to: Info Dept (Pens), Help the Aged, St James's Walk, London, EC1R 0BE.

☐ J. ROTHSCHILD Assurance is launching the 25th edition of its tax guide, which includes a detailed analysis of the changes in the November 1995 Budget and this year's Finance Act. Topics include the new self-assessment rules, revised share-option taxation rules, the improved inheritance tax threshold and business property relief improvements, and an objective analysis of tax planning beyond the next election. *The J. Rothschild Assurance Tax Guide* costs £19.99 from bookshops.

☐ LLOYDS Bank Stockbrokers has launched a low-cost stockbroking package for investment clubs. The Investment Club Service allows up to 20 people to pool their resources to invest in the stock market and will offer a discounted commission rate for UK equities of 1.25 per cent, a free nominee service, and investment advice post-registration. For further details of the service, call Lloyds Bank Stockbrokers on 0345 888300.

☐ *THE Credit Suisse Guide to Managing Your Personal Wealth* (£46 from Blackwells) contains articles from more than 50 financial experts discussing the multitude of ways that wealth can be invested for maximum profit. The guide covers six main areas: private banking, world markets, property, alternative investments, managing your personal affairs and structuring your wealth. It also advises on how to preserve your accumulated wealth and how to ensure that your heirs receive what is due to them.

LIZANNE ROSE

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Portman BS 01202 292444	Instant Acc	Instant	£100	4.80	Yly
All & Leicester BS 0645 645660	Instant Dir	Postal	£5,000	5.40	Yly
Bristol & West BS 0800 901109	Inst Acc Post	Postal	£10,000	5.75	Yly
Northern Rock BS 0500 505000	Gt Nth Postal	Postal	£25,000	6.50	A/ Yly

NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Coventry BS 0345 665522	Postal 50	50 day p	£2,000	5.45	Yly
First National BS 0800 558844	90 Day Notice	90 day p	£10,000	6.20	Yly
Chelsea BS 0800 272505	120 Account	120 day	£25,000	6.50	Yly
Yorkshire BS 0800 378836	Investment Bond	31.5.99	£2,500	7.20	F/Yly

FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
NatWest Bank 0800 200400		5 year	£5,000	7.45	F/Yly
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505		5 year	£8,575	7.40	F/Yly
Birmingham Midshires 0645 720721		5 year	£1,000	7.25	Yly
Principality BS 01222 344188		5 year	£500	7.00	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	0.92%C	11.50%	Nil
NatWest Bank 0800 200400	Access/Visa	0.95%N	12.00%N	Nil N
Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	1.00%	14.00%	£12

PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

PERSONAL LOANS	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	no insurance
Direct Line 0141 248 9966	13.90%E	£112.86	£101.33
Yorkshire Bank 0345 181920	14.60%	£117.68	£102.09
Midland 0800 180180	14.90%	£115.82	£102.49

Nb. A = All withdrawals subject to 30 day loss of interest, C = no interest free period, E = Available to comprehensive motor insurance policy holders over 22 years, F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable), N = Introductory rate for a limited period, P = By Post only

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
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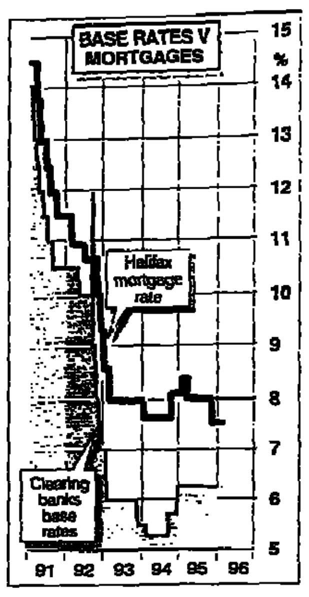
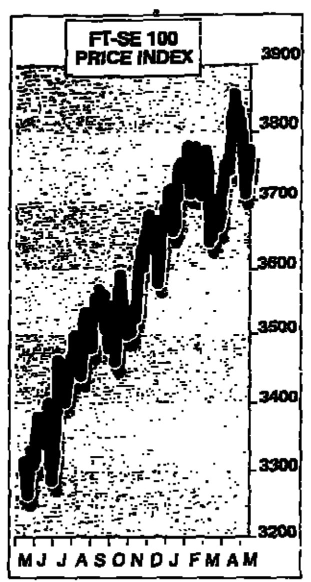
Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 677)





NATIONAL SAVINGS

	Gross rate	At tax rates 20%	40%	Min/maximum investmnt £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c[1]	1.75	1.40	1.05	10-10,000**		0645 645000
Investment A/c*[6]	5.00	4.00	3.00	20-500**	1mth	0645 645000
Income Bond*[8]	6.25	5.00	3.75	2,000-25,000**	3mth	0645 645000
First Opt Bond[4]	8.25	5.00	3.75	1,000-20,000**		0645 645000
43rd Issue Cert†[2,3]	5.35			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Children's Bond†	6.75			25-1,000	1mth	0645 645000
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					0645 645000
Capital Bond[5]	6.65	5.32	3.99	100-250,000	8day	0645 645000
8th Index Linked†[5]	2.50			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Pensnrs Bond S3[9]	7.00	5.60	4.20	500-50,000[3]	60day	0645 645000

[1] first £70 (£140 jt a/c) of int tax free, inst accs for up to £100 [2] Additional hldgs up to £20,000 for reinvested proceeds † Tax free *Rates gross and vble [5] Guaranteed when held for 5 years [6] 0.3% net bonus for £20,000 - £100,000 [7] in addition to S1 and S2 holdings [8] Taxable but paid in full **Tiered rates apply

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Prudential............Level	£10,467	£11,495	£12,893
MGM Assur ....Level	£10,199	£11,271	£12,737
Canada Lfe ....Level	£10,058	£11,227	£12,810
Norwich Un..........Level	£10,261	£11,221	£12,553
Standard Lf..........Level	£10,136	£11,204	£12,584

SINGLE LIFE	Female: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Norwich Un ....Level	£9,722	£10,458	£11,549
Prudential ....Level	£9,710	£10,443	£11,528
MGM Assur ....Level	£9,458	£10,219	£11,347
Royal Life ....Level	£9,305	£10,138	£11,364
Sun Lf of Can.......Level	£9,372	£10,103	£11,185

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	Male: Age 60 Female: Age 55	Age 65 Age 60	Age 70 Age 65
Prudential ....Level	£9,323	£9,895	£10,708
Norwich Un ....Level	£9,301	£9,847	£10,637
MGM Assur ....Level	£9,053	£9,670	£10,518
Stalwart * ....Level	£8,926	£9,605	£10,369
Sun Lf of Can.......Level	£9,002	£9,568	£10,378

* Maximum purchase £100,000. Higher rates for smokers.
Source: Annuity Direct (0171 588 9393)

Compiled by Lizanne Rose

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME
Rates as at May 16, 1996

	Investment (£)	Company	Standard Rate (%)
1 Year			
	5,000	AIG Life	5.05
	10,000	AIG Life	5.10
	20,000	AIG Life	5.25
	50,000	AIG Life	5.35
2 Years			
	5,000	Financial Assur	5.70
	20,000	Premium Life	5.85
	50,000	Premium Life	5.95
3 Years			
	5,000	AIG Life	5.98
	10,000	AIG Life	6.23
	20,000	AIG Life	6.38
	50,000	AIG Life	6.48
4 Years			
	5,000	AIG Life	6.21
	10,000	AIG Life	6.41
	20,000	AIG Life	6.51
	50,000	AIG Life	6.56
5 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	5.85
	3,000	Pinnacle Insur	6.75
	15,000	Abbey Life	6.80
	50,000	Abbey Life	7.00

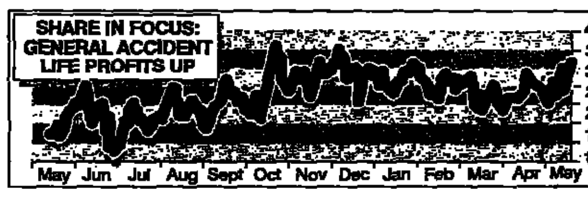
Source: Chamberlain de Broë 0171-434 4222. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	101.22	9.250	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	120.38	9.645	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	134.73	9.629	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	139.92	9.535	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	134.86	9.622	100.42	1,000
Coventry	12.125%	126.23	9.580	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	116.88	10.040	100.25	10,000
Halifax	8.750%	93.40	9.368	100.62	50,000
Halifax	12.000%	125.43	9.360	100.28	50,000
Halifax	13.625%	143.58	9.466	100.00	50,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	140.06	9.529	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	115.33	9.308	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	134.93	9.332	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	136.88	9.203	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	135.07	9.513	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
Cheshire (28/09-21/03)	8.58750%	103.63	100.00	1,000
First Nat(20/03-20/09)	8.70625%	100.63	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares
Source: ABN AMRO Hoare Govett — 0171 601 0101



LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bristol & West 0800 100117	0.70	£15k+	90	Fxd to 30.4.97
Alliance & Leicest 0116 2726269	1.50	to £150k	95	Fxd to 1.4.97
Northern Rock 0800 591 500	0.99	£100-150k	75	High Equity dis 6¾% to 1.5.97
Banks				
Nat West Home Loan 0800 400999	1.75	£15k+	90	5.50% discount for 12 months
Barclays 0800 000929	3.50	£15k+	90	3.75% discount for 12 months

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Hinckley & Rugby 0800 774499	0.11	£1-150k	70	7.14% discount for 9 months
Scarborough 0800 590547	0.05	to £150k	70	Super Fix Rate for 12 months
Nottingham Imper 0115 9817220	0.49	£15k+	75	rate fixed to 31.7.97
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.50%dsc-6 mth 3% dsc-6 mth
Bank of Scotland 0800 400999	1.75	£15k+	95	5.50% discount for 12 months

FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bristol & West 0800 606088	0.71	£15k+	95	6.54% disc 6 mth, 2.5% disc 6 mths
Lambeth 0171 9281331	3.99	£15-150k	95	3.25% discount for 12 months
Newbury 01635 43676	4.49	£5-150k	95	2.5% discount for 12 months
Banks				
Bnk of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.50% disc 6 mths 3% discount 6 mth
TSB Bank Local branch	3.51	£15k+	95	3.74% discount for 12 months

Larger lenders, larger loans and first-time buyers tables supplied by Blay's Guides Ltd. Further information: Blay's Guides, 01753 880482.

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	Bid*	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 0171 538 8800				
Balanced	531.30	562.30	+ 2.30	...
UK Equity	670.70	709.80	+ 0.10	...
Property	524.40	555.00	+ 0.60	...
Fixed Interest	358.60	379.50	+ 3.10	...
Money	264.50	279.90	+ 0.20	...
International	476.60	504.40	+12.20	...
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 01202 292373				
Guardian S4	192.10	202.30	+ 1.30	...
Ethical S4	159.70	168.20	+ 0.50	...
International S4	229.10	241.20	+ 2.70	...
Protected Gth S4	122.00	128.50	+ 0.30	...
Asian Pacific	221.50	233.20	+ 0.30	...
European S4	207.80	218.80	+ 3.70	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	380.40	400.50	+ 0.10	...
Equity Ser 4	265.00	279.00	- 0.40	...
Man Ser 4	779.00	820.00	+ 5.10	...
Conv Ser 4	347	365.30	+ 0.30	...
Money Ser 4	346.60	364.90	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	372.40	392.10	+ 1.90	...
American Ser 4	648.50	682.70	+26.80	...
High Inc Ser 4	792.00	833.70	+ 1.00	...
Indexed Inv Ser 4	222.60	234.40	+ 0.30	...
Japan Ser 4	385.40	405.70	+ 3.10	...
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 01707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	1892.20	1991.70	+14.00	...
European Fd Acc	462.50	486.80	+ 7.20	...
Fixed Int Acc	541.60	570.00	+ 3.20	...
Gtd Money Acc	353.40	371.90	+ 0.20	...
Intl Managed Acc	766.90	807.20	+ 9.10	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	367.30	386.60	+ 3.60	...
Japan Fund	288.70	303.80	- 1.10	...
N American Acc	425.90	448.20	+16.60	...
Prop Fd Acc	461.00	485.20	+ 0.10	...
Multiple Inv Acc	1215.50	1279.40	+10.10	...
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 01793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	395.60	416.50	+ 0.30	...
Equity Acc	1698.30	1787.70	+15.20	...
Property Acc	623.20	656.00	+ 0.60	...
Far East Acc	358.10	377.00	+ 3.10	...
Managed Capital	611.90	644.20	+ 5.10	...
-do- Acc	1289.50	1357.40	+10.90	...
Overseas Acc	1141.20	1201.30	+ 6.60	...
Gilt Edged Acc	525.10	552.80	+ 2.00	...
Amer Equity Acc	1071.30	1127.70	+27.80	...
Amer Man Acc	450.00	473.70	+11.10	...
Amer Prop Acc	118.30	124.50	+ 1.10	...
Distribution Bonds	24.80	26.30	+ 0.20	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Opportunity	228.20	241.40	+ 0.70	...
Euro Opportunity	260.30	275.40	+ 6.50	...
North Amer Opp	228.10	241.30	+ 8.90	...
Far East Opp	227.00	240.20	+ 0.10	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	166.20	174.90	...	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	201.90	213.60	...	...
Fixed Int	214.30	226.70	+ 0.60	...
Cash	167.60	177.30	+ 0.10	6.49
Overseas	257.70	272.60	+ 6.20	...
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	419.70	441.80	+ 5.80	...
UK Equity	693.50	730.00	- 4.50	...
Property	269.20	283.40	+ 0.30	...
Money Market	265.80	279.80	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	314.80	331.40	+ 1.90	...
Japan	391.20	411.80	- 0.90	...
North America	208.50	219.50	+ 7.80	...
International	409.10	430.70	+ 7.00	...
European	341.30	359.30	+ 8.60	...
Far East	164.00	172.70	+ 0.30	...
CANADA LIFE 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 01707 51122				
Equity Growth t	277.80	...	...	...
Managed	392.70	413.40	+ 1.30	...
Property	249.20	262.40	- 0.40	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	258.30	271.90	+ 1.30	...
Equity	454.20	478.20	- 1.00	...
Cash	227.00	239.00	+ 0.20	...
CLife Euro Mgd	449.80	473.50	+ 5.10	...
CLife Ind Fd	421.50	443.70	+ 7.00	...
Managed Fund	830.30	874.00	+ 4.90	...
Property Fund	541.60	570.10	+ 0.60	...
Equity Fund	1092.40	1149.90	+ 4.50	...
Gilt Edged Fd	661.00	695.80	+ 3.10	...
Deposit Fund	351.30	369.80	...	...
Investment Fd	477.30	501.20	+ 2.00	...
International	645.70	679.70	+ 6.80	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU, 01908 606101				
Property Fund	166.20	175.00	...	...
Managed Fund	731.50	770.00	+ 3.40	...
Equity Fund	423.00	445.30	+ 0.30	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH, 0117 9290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	339.50	357.40	+ 2.70	...
Ruby	210.20	221.30	+ 2.00	...
Emerald	153.70	161.80	+ 0.60	...
Equity	387.60	408.00	+ 1.20	...
Property	234.60	247.00	+ 0.10	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	219.60	231.20	+ 1.60	...
Indexed Secs	177.10	186.50	+ 0.60	...
Cash	198.80	209.30	+ 0.10	...
Nth American	301.70	317.60	+ 9.40	...
Far East	377.60	397.50	+ 4.30	...

هكذا من الأصل

مكبر من الاصل

WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Closed out at National Counties

From Mr Gerald Stock

Sir, With reference to your article on National Counties Building Society (*Weekend Money*, May 4), I would like to add my voice to those readers who are protesting to the Building Societies Ombudsman against their treatment by this society and the summary closure of their accounts, without explanation and without redress.

On April 26, 1996, I sent a cheque for £270.24 as a deposit to the National Counties Building Society and received by return an undated and unreferenced letter written by an unnamed author. This letter informed me that my account, which I had opened in the early months of this year, was to be closed.

From what I have read in *The Times* and what is stated in the letter, I gather I should have previously received another letter from the National Counties Building Society saying that my account was to be closed, but I have, in fact, received no such letter.

I must say that I really do not expect to deposit money in a building society to be subsequently informed by return of post that my account is to be closed!

Having read *The Times* with interest today and spoken to a few friends, I am becoming concerned about what is currently occurring in the building society sector.

I can understand the point of view of the National Counties Building Society, but it is nevertheless discriminating unfairly, presumably on some secret basis, against some savers.

Having decided on such discrimination, the society has chosen a particularly inequitable method of so doing.

Yours sincerely,
GERALD STOCK,
330 City Way,
Rochester, Kent.

From Mr H. N. Pandey.

Sir, I am writing to thank you for your excellent comments and article on the National Counties Building Society arbitrarily cancelling the accounts of certain small accountholders.

My account has been cancelled too. I found the tone and the content of their letter most offensive.

You would be doing hundreds of your readers who are also National Counties accountholders a great favour if you kept the pressure on that particular building society. Thanks once again.

Yours sincerely,
H. N. PANDEY,
52 Kelsey Crescent,
Cambridge.

Effects of bank closures on those living in rural areas

From Dr Joan Wilkinson

Sir, I wonder if the accountants in the isolation of the pretentious National Westminster headquarters have the slightest conception of the social and human consequences of their drastic closure of rural branches.

In spite of a deliberate policy of running down the services of these banks over recent years, there is still a considerable volume of trade in many of these branches which, like the one in my village, serve a wide hinterland.

Local people still depend upon the bank and the local economy will be seriously affected when nearby villagers no longer come in to visit the bank and local shops.

The elderly, the sick and those without transport will be seriously inconvenienced. Those of us who remember that not so long ago we had a bank that genuinely put the customers first have watched with dismay measures which have turned away charity accounts, local organisations, depositors of strong boxes, small businesses and valid loan seekers so that the figures may be made to fit the required criteria for closure.

There have been banking facilities in this village as long as anyone can remember. Perhaps we may take consolation from the possibility that the NatWest may one day be hoist with its own petard.

"Cost effectiveness" as now given as justification is only another name for greed. No doubt some future Robert Maxwell will be welcomed with open arms or some future Nick Leeson take off into the realm of big money. Meanwhile, I have made an appointment with the Royal Bank of Scotland in the town in which we are now forced to bank.

Yours faithfully,
JOAN WILKINSON,
Mulberry House,
Great Eccleston,
Preston,
Lancashire.

Closures don't mean owt t'me...
...t'fish didn't keep too good in t' strong box, any roads
GED

Wealth tax and the Labour bite

From Professor Emeritus Glyn Emery

Sir, Karen Zagor ("Looking for the real bite in Labour", Weekend Money, April 27) forgets an important consideration. People on high salaries are, or believe themselves to be, paid at market rates. Any rise in their tax must therefore be compensated by a rise in their basic pay, otherwise their service is lost. In the public sector, this will simply nullify the tax take. In the private sector, pay increases must be made at the expense of dividends or investment, so the tax is simply passed on to investors, whether individuals or funds.

Yours sincerely,
GLYN EMERY,
134 Northchurch Road, N1.

From Mr A. Chalkley

Sir, I read your article "Looking for the real bite in Labour" with much interest. You indicate that Labour is being very economical with details of its tax plans. However, there is one area of taxation that I consider any incoming Labour government might explore to its advantage: a wealth tax.

The Labour Party is extremely pro-Europe and many European countries have such a tax. This is one way that such countries pay for their devotion to the social chapter. It also goes some some way to explain Labour's plans for a "windfall" tax on utilities since "windfall" and wealth tax are in the same breath.

Take Spain, where a 0.2 per cent wealth tax, produces a nice revenue for a badly ailing economy. Such a tax in this country would surely bring in something in excess of £5 billion a year, enough for a Labour government to introduce a 15 per cent tax band without much pain.

Yours faithfully,
A. CHALKLEY,
4 Iden Close, Shortlands,
Bromley, Kent.

Rights and votes

From Dr John Notley

Sir, Re: paperless trading with Crest and Nominee Accounts (Weekend Money, April 27). One of the main disadvantages of Nominee Accounts is that shareholders lose the right to vote at AGMs and EGMs, and thus to have a say in how the company is managed. I remember a big fuss at last year's British Gas AGM when shareholders, critical of management, were outvoted by institutions on votes bought with other people's money.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN NOTLEY,
12 Edgerton Court,
Tadcaster, N. Yorks.

Insurance against what?

From Mr John Millington

Sir, As an undergraduate studying at a new-fangled "polyversity", I have spent the last ten months in a paid work placement.

During this period, I have been liable to income tax and National Insurance at the appropriate levels, reading the column for reductions each month with glee. Unfortunately, the company I have been working for has been forced to make redundancies and, being a temporary employee, I have also been given notice.

Having now approached the Benefits Agency for an appraisal of my eligibility for Income Support, I am bemused by their response. The legislation apparently prevents my claiming any assistance should I fail to find employment during the four-month period before my return to study.

Am I right in assuming that I am in the unenviable position of having paid into a state-sponsored employment insurance scheme only to find that I am not entitled to claim against that insurance?

Yours ponderously,
JOHN MILLINGTON,
104 Calton Road,
Gloucester,
Glos.

Friendly societies lose some friends

FRIENDLY societies are for those with little money to spare. Unfortunately, as thousands of savers have found out, this market is very expensive to service. This expense has been reflected in some of the poor returns now being experienced by many savers with ten-year savings plans coming to maturity. Returns have been depleted by high charges deducted from the plans to meet the friendly society's various costs. An article in *The Times* in February about Paddy Goodman, from Scotland, and his Homeowners Friendly Society bond drew a big response. His savings had shown only a 1 per cent annual return over the bond's ten-year life.

Danton: hyped

Among those sympathising with Mr Goodman was Brian Danton from Newport. He is disappointed with the returns on his Family Assurance bond. His plan, originally sold to him by Holborn & Metropolitan Counties Society — which later merged with the Family Assurance — is now worth £1,312.76, on a total investment of just over £1,000 over a ten-year period. Mr Danton said: "In all the hype that accompanied the selling of these policies, much was made of the tax-free advantages of the scheme. We were told that these were so good the Government was restricting the amount of money that could be invested in them."

Friendly societies originally provided low-premium policies for poorer members of society. It is possible to invest up to £25 a month free of tax. The tax on insurance company funds is normally more than 20 per cent. If the friendly society bond is held for more than ten years, any proceeds are free of tax.

The number of friendly societies has shrunk and a tougher regulatory regime has begun to have an impact. Of 340 friendly societies in existence, only 118 are authorised to transact businesss. The others operate as closed funds.

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The market for savings and investment opportunities is so broad and complicated that it would be a full time job for you to explore and understand all the options thoroughly. And you already have a full-time job.

This means that it's frustratingly easy to miss out. You could be missing opportunities to save tax. You may have money in accounts and savings plans which offer uncompetitive growth rates. Or equally, you may be taking unnecessary and inappropriate risks with your money.

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Shares end the week firm

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
556	480	**Allied Domecq**	494	- 4	6.1	17.5
625	500	Bulmer (HP)	598	- 4½	2.6	18.7
137	115	Burn Stewart	115		5.4	24.8
650	615	Glenmorangie A	633		2.2	17.8
464	417	**Grand Met**	446	+ 6	4.3	18.9
493	435	**Guinness**	487	+ 1	3.8	15.9
377	315	Highland Distl	374		2.7	17.4
195	150	Macallan-Glen	170		1.1	34.9
791	655	Matthew Clark	788		3.5	
131	93	Merrydown W	131		1.9	
2612½	1706¼	SA Breweries	1862½		2.1	

BANKS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3984¾	2747¼	ABN-AMRO	3438½	+ 40¾	4.1	11.7
663	529	**Abbey Nat**	583	+ 11	4.7	11.2
385	322	Allied Irish	348	..	6.0	10.1
336	299	Ans New Z	311	- 6	5.6	.
5243¾	3843¾	Bank America	4925	- 62½		
310	235½	**Bank Scotland**	271	+ 14½	3.2	12.9
819	683	**Barclays**	789	+ 12	4.1	10.3
488	422	Bk of Ireland	461	.	4.2	
482	403	Cater Allen	404	.	9.3	6.7
5387½	4031¼	Citicorp	5312½	+ 25		
392	318	Close Bros	369	- 1	3.1	16.4
£157½	£141¼	Commerzbk	£147⅝	+ 150	3.5	.
1350	1171½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1225	- 28½	0.4	
3412½	2978¾	Deutsche Bk	3221½	+ 12½	2.2	
803¼	593¾	Espirito Santo	775	- 3½	4.7	10.2
1507	1265½	Fuji Bank Y	1423	+ 18	0.4	...
472	385	Gerrard Nat	385		7.3	12.4
252	196	Hambros	235		4.0	
1125	931	**HSBC**	979½	+ 16½	4.1	10.4
1099	930	HSBC H	975	+ 12	4.1	10.4
421	385	Irish Perm	396	- 1	3.2	
173	143	King Shaxson	172		6.5	13.4
453	448	Leopold J	453		5.2	15.6
347½	294½	**Lloyds TSB**	334	+ 9½	2.9	14.7
640	576	Nat Aust Bk	619	+ 6	7.1	7.8
711	608	**Nat West**	661	+ 16	4.8	9.3
66	58	Rea Brothers	58		2.2	27.5
596	483	**Ryl Bk Scot**	562	+ 21	3.9	12.4
1380	1185	**Schroders**	1263	+ 13	1.6	17.9
1128	890	Schroders N/V	1025	+ 5	2.0	14.3
116	99½	Singer & Friedl	112		4.5	9.3
662½	547	**Stand Chartd**	640	+ 23	2.1	14.0
105	85½	Union	97		3.9	.
£174½	£131⅝	Wells Fargo	£157½	- 87½	2.2	
329½	264	Westpac	309½	- 4½	4.8	
305	268	Wintrust	300		4.9	17.2

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
50	36	Abrdn Stk H©	36			7.8
370	263	Accel Hldgs	370	+ 2		0.7
797½	702	**Bass**	772	- 4	3.7	17.8
70	45	Brit for the Bdr	46		4.5	12.0
177	161	Burtonwd Brw	162		4.2	15.7
133	92	City Centre Restr	116		2.4	21.9
562	463	Compass Gp	538	+ 10	1.8	23.6
263	190	Eldridge P 'A'©	253	- 1	2.3	23.3
510	413	Fuller Sm 'A'©	510	+ 12	2.1	30.1
636	551	Greenalls Grp	586	+ 2½	3.2	15.7
695	604	Greene King	684		2.6	16.8
278	224	Grosvenor Inns	271	+ 6	2.5	28.8
254	204	Groupe Chez Ger	227		1.4	23.0
357	300	Hardy Hanson	307		4.1	11.5
230	155	Heavitree	210		3.5	12.7
3475	3095	Holt JT	3300	- 25	2.2	
55	45	Inn Business	51	- 1		
348	313	Marchfield	347		1.9	17.4
353½	307	Marston Thmp	352		2.6	16.6
673	535	Morland	650	- 5	2.3	18.2
147	118	My Kinda Town	143		2.6	14.1
6½	4½	Paramount	5		5.5	8.0
142½	123	Pelican Gp	134		1.5	22.5
352	217	PizzaExpress	352		0.8	36.5
437	245	Ramsdens (H)	423	- 10	1.5	44.4
1063	658	Regent Inns	1053	+ 3	0.9	33.0
700	601	**Scot & New**	676	+ 4	3.5	18.2
258	205	Tom Cobleigh	217		1.6	35.3
313	268	Vaux Group	290	+ 2	4.5	14.8
958	640	Wetherspoon (JD)	936		1.1	32.7
759	672	**Whitbread**	746	+ 9	3.7	16.9
693	578	Wolverhmptn D	691	- 2	2.8	16.8
407	297	Yates Bros	400		1.0	35.5
615	425	Young A	615		3.1	25.0

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
277	200	Quadramatic	272	..	3.7	16.8
18	14½	Quadrant Grp	18	...	2.0	44.7
66	62	Radiant Metal	65			
69	53	Ransomes	67	...		18.6
83	55½	Record	80		5.8	14.6
302	231	Renold	298½		2.2	16.9
36	21	Richards Group	21		13.4	6.3
88	78	Richardson Westt	78		5.8	
246	187	Rolls-Royce	225	+ 4	2.8	26.9
240	171	Rotork	238		2.8	21.7
192	180	Rubicon	189	...	3.6	18.8
1568¾	1187½	SKF 'B'	1453¾	- 43¾	3.5	
112	92½	Senior Engt	105		4.3	19.8
245	156	Smith-Rwf	230	+ 1	1.6	23.8
897	750	Siebe	874	- 3	1.8	24.2
84	70	Simon Engt	78		1.1	17.0
283	190	Sir Hundred	281	- 1	1.8	20.2
721	622	Smiths Inds	710	+ 8	2.8	21.1
738	593	Spirax-Sarco	733	...	2.3	21.7
324	287	Sterling Ind	324		3.0	15.7
555	456	TI	535	...	2.9	20.7
99	92	Tinsley (E)©	92		7.7	13.5
121	78	TransTec	120		2.3	33.8
180	140	Triplex Lloyd	170		5.1	12.8
155	137	Unicorn Intl	153		4.5	15.2
16½	14¼	Utd Indst	15¼		3.6	..
16½	10¼	Vernon	16½	+ ½		
302	247	Vickers	261	+ 1	3.2	17.0
14	12	Villers Grp	12½			
770	707	Vitec	745	...	1.8	14.1
882	815	Vosper Thorny	824	+ 1	3.3	15.0
436	389	Wagon Ind	413		5.8	11.9
271	212	Weir	252	- 6	3.7	15.1
268	228	Wellington Hdgt	268		3.5	
56	42	Wellman	53		3.9	11.6
435	363	Whatman	435	+ 13	3.4	18.5
122	73	Widney	75		5.7	8.7

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
148	108	Adwest	146		6.7	41.7
291	265	Airflow Stream	291	+ 1	3.4	6.8
633	473	Avon Rubber	633	+ 1	3.6	15.3
81½	57½	BSG	77½		5.3	13.8
350	273	Bostrom	350	+ 5	2.4	15.4
29	19½	Boustead	20		6.2	
273	175	ERF	273	+ 30	2.1	16.1
473	431	First Tech	473		2.0	16.9
997	778	GKN	980	+ 12	3.1	17.8
3800	3112½	General Mtrl	3668¾	+ 18¾	2.9	
1524½	1312¾	Honda Motor	1509¾	- 3½	0.6	
502	386	Lairdt	486	- 5	3.2	...
445	425	Loades	445		0.3	
342½	172	Lucas	239	+ 7	3.7	32.0

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OTHER FINANCIAL

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
143	106	Aberdeen Tst	115½		2.7	22.8
118	77	BfeD	111		5.6	13.4
40	34½	Berry Bch Nbl	36	+ 1	2.8	
333	252	Biotec Inv	330			
201	151	Brewin Dolphin	200		4.4	14.0
805	700	Caledonia	800		2.7	24.8
2300	1700	Camellia	2050		2.2	18.9
273	213	Cattles	273	+ 3	3.2	19.7
37	18	Christie	37			
147	90	EFT Group	134		2.0	15.9
725	558	ENAT	719	+ 1	4.3	17.6
118	91	Excel	105		10.7	12.7
274	240	Gartmore	250		0.9	21.1

BRITISH FUNDS

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
218¾	215¹³⁄₁₆	Treas 2% 1996	218¾	..	0.92	5.95
103¼	101¹⁹⁄₃₂	Conv 10% 1996	101¹⁹⁄₃₂		9.87	5.97
101²⁵⁄₃₂	100¹⁵⁄₁₆	Treas 7% 1997	100²⁷⁄₃₂		6.94	6.26
107²⁹⁄₃₂	104²⁹⁄₃₂	Treas 13¼% 1997	104²⁹⁄₃₂	- ¹⁄₃₂	12.65	6.04
104¹⁵⁄₁₆	103⁵⁄₃₂	Exch 10½% 1997	103⁵⁄₃₂		10.17	6.03
104¹³⁄₁₆	102⅞	Treas 8¾% 1997	102⅞		8.51	6.34
114²⁵⁄₃₂	111¹¹⁄₁₆	Exch 15% 1997	111¹¹⁄₁₆		13.43	6.32
106⅛	104²⁹⁄₃₂	Exch 9¾% 1998	104⅞		9.30	6.57
102⁷⁄₁₆	100¼	Treas 7¼% 1998	100²⁹⁄₃₂	+ ¹⁄₃₂	7.18	6.66
101	99⅝	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	100⅟₃₂	+ ¹⁄₃₂	6.75	6.68
116²⁹⁄₃₂	113⅝	Treas 14% 1998-01	113⅝ †	.	12.36	6.79
122¹³⁄₁₆	118⅞	Treas 15½% 1998	118⅞	+ ¹⁄₁₆	13.08	6.84
114⅝	111⁹⁄₃₂	Exch 12% 1998	111¼ †	+ ¹⁄₁₆	10.77	6.93
108⅝	105⅝	Treas 9½% 1999	105¹⁵⁄₁₆	+ ¹⁄₁₆	8.97	6.97
116⅞	112⅞	Exch 12¼% 1999	113⅞	+ ³⁄₁₆	10.82	7.05
112⅝	108²⁹⁄₃₂	Treas 10½% 1999	109⅝ †	+ ¹⁄₃₂	9.62	7.07
98²⁵⁄₃₂	95	Treas 6% 1999	96²³⁄₃₂	+ ¹⁄₃₂	6.19	7.09
112²⁷⁄₃₂	108¹⁹⁄₃₂	Conv 10¼% 1999	109⅞ †	+ ¹⁄₁₆	9.38	7.21
109¹⁵⁄₃₂	104¹³⁄₁₆	Conv 9% 2000	105¹⁵⁄₃₂	+ ¹⁄₁₆	8.52	7.26
105⅛	101⅞	Treas 8% 2000	102⅝	+ ⅛	7.81	7.35
124²⁵⁄₃₂	119⅝	Treas 13% 2000	119⅝	+ ¹⁄₁₆	10.86	7.36
114	109¹³⁄₁₆	Treas 10% 2001	109²⁹⁄₃₂	+ ³⁄₃₂	9.10	7.46
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
101⁵⁄₃₂	96½	Treas 7% 2001	97⅝	+ ³⁄₃₂	7.17	7.51
114⅝	108⅛	Treas 9¾% 2002	110⅝	+ ³⁄₁₆	8.85	7.67
105²⁹⁄₃₂	99²⁹⁄₃₂	Treas 8% 2003	101¹⁵⁄₃₂	+ ³⁄₁₆	7.88	7.73
117⅝	110⅞	Treas 10% 2003	112⅞	+ ⅛	8.92	7.77
119¹⁵⁄₁₆	114⅝	Treas 11½% 2001-04	115⅝	+ ³⁄₃₂	9.97	7.61
83²³⁄₃₂	78⅝	Fund 3½% 1999-04	80⅛	+ ¹¹⁄₃₂	4.36	6.87
114⅝	107¹³⁄₁₆	Conv 9½% 2004	109⅝	+ ¹⁵⁄₃₂	8.67	7.91
96¹⁵⁄₁₆	91⅝	Treas 6¾% 2004	92¹³⁄₁₆ †	+ ⅛	7.26	7.90
108²⁹⁄₃₂	101⅞	Treas 8½% 2005	103¹⁵⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	8.20	7.93
114²⁹⁄₃₂	108⅝	Conv 9½% 2005	109²⁹⁄₃₂	+ ⅛	8.65	7.93

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
131⅜	123¹⁵⁄₁₆	Treas 12½% 2003-05	125¹¹⁄₃₂ †	+ ¹⁵⁄₃₂	9.96	7.91
101²⁵⁄₃₂	94¹³⁄₁₆	Treas 7½% 2006	96²⁹⁄₃₂	+ ¹³⁄₃₂	7.76	7.97
103⅛	96¹⁵⁄₁₆	Treas 7¾% 2006	98⅛	+ ⅛	7.90	8.01
104¹¹⁄₃₂	97⅛	Treas 8% 2002-06	99¹⁵⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	8.01	8.01
125¹⁵⁄₃₂	118¹⁹⁄₃₂	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	119²⁹⁄₃₂	+ ¹³⁄₃₂	9.81	7.86
108²⁹⁄₃₂	101²⁹⁄₃₂	Treas 8½% 2007	103⅛	+ ¹⁵⁄₃₂	8.23	8.05
138²⁹⁄₃₂	130¹⁵⁄₁₆	Treas 13½% 2004-08	132¹⁵⁄₃₂	+ ¹⁵⁄₃₂	10.22	7.93
112¹⁵⁄₁₆	105	Treas 9% 2008	107⅛	+ ⅝	8.41	8.07
104⅞	96²⁹⁄₃₂	Treas 8% 2009	98¹³⁄₁₆	+ ¹⁵⁄₃₂	8.09	8.12
LONGS (over 15 years)						
88¹⁵⁄₁₆	81⅜	Treas 6¼% 2010	83²⁹⁄₃₂ †	+ ¹⁵⁄₃₂	7.47	8.18
112¹⁵⁄₁₆	104⅝	Conv 9% 2011	106²⁹⁄₃₂	+ ¹⁵⁄₃₂	8.42	8.19
113⅝	104²⁹⁄₃₂	Treas 9% 2012	107	+ ⅝	8.41	8.20
82⅝	75⅞	Treas 5½% 2008-12	77½	+ ⅝	7.10	7.97
103¹⁵⁄₁₆	95⅝	Treas 8% 2013	97²⁹⁄₃₂	+ ⅝	8.18	8.22
101¹⁵⁄₃₂	93²⁹⁄₃₂	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	95¹⁵⁄₃₂	+ ⅝	8.13	8.23
103⅞	95¹¹⁄₁₆	Treas 8% 2015	97¹³⁄₁₆	+ ⅝	8.18	8.22
111⅛	102⅞	Treas 8¾% 2017	104¹⁵⁄₁₆	+ ¹¹⁄₁₆	8.35	8.25
141⅜	130⅞	Exch 12% 2013-17	133²⁹⁄₃₂	+ ²⁵⁄₃₂	8.99	8.32
99⅞	95²⁵⁄₃₂	Treas 8% 2021	97²⁵⁄₃₂	+ ²¹⁄₃₂	8.18	8.20
UNDATED						
45⅞	41⅝	War Ln 3½%	42¹⁵⁄₁₆ †	+ ⅝	8.27	
32⅝	29⅛	Treas 2½%	29⅝	+ ⅜	8.46	
50¹⁵⁄₁₆	46⅝	Consols 4%	47¹⁵⁄₁₆	+ ⅝	8.45	
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					10%	5%
113¹⁵⁄₁₆	111⅝	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	112²⁹⁄₃₂	+ ⅛	1.31	2.82
180⅝	176⅛	Treas IL 2% 2001	178¹⁵⁄₃₂	+ ⅛	3.10	3.67
176⅝	171¹⁵⁄₃₂	Treas IL 2½% 2003	174⅝ †	+ ⅛	3.29	3.71
116¹⁵⁄₁₆	112²⁹⁄₃₂	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	114¹⁵⁄₃₂	+ ⅛	3.34	3.73
185¹⁵⁄₃₂	179¹⁵⁄₃₂	Treas IL 2% 2006	182½	+ ⅛	3.44	3.74
187⅝	181⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2009	183⅝ †	+ ¹⁵⁄₃₂	3.51	3.77
173⅝	166⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2011	169⅛	+ ⅝	3.56	3.78
143	137⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2013	139	+ ¹⁵⁄₃₂	3.60	3.80
152⅝	145⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2016	147⅝	+ ⅝	3.64	3.83
146	138¹⁵⁄₁₆	Treas IL 2½% 2020	141⅛	+ ⅝	3.68	3.84
122	115⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2024	117¹⁵⁄₃₂	+ ⅝	3.67	3.81
120⅛	113⅝	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	116	+ ⅝	3.67	3.82

Source: Finstat

© USM. # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited. .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

مكرر من الاصل

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
01895 259 783				
Grdand Amer	222.50	235.50	+ 8.90	0.14
Grdand Equity	272.10	289.50†	+ 1.80	1.86
Grdand Euro	272.30	288.10	+ 5.10	0.56
Grdand Eqd Bal	132.60	137.40	....	2.56
Grdand Gilt	76.26	78.62	+ 0.27	6.13
Grdand Japan	191.40	202.60	+ 0.70	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	653.30	695.10	+ 3.70	2.46
General Inc	555.10	580.60	+ 3.20	2.46
UK Growth Acc	443.00	471.30†	+ 2.40	2.67
UK Growth Inc	290.90	309.50†	+ 1.60	2.67
Higher Inc Acc	789.70	840.20†	- 1.70	4.11
Higher Inc Inc	430.80	458.30	- 0.90	4.11
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	205.50	217.10	+ 1.20	5.63
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	92.25	97.43	+ 0.51	5.63
Nth America	402.10	427.80†	+21.80	.
Europe	360.80	383.90	+ 7.90	0.43
Brit Excell	87.91	93.53‡	+ 0.30	2.86
Brit Fxdndis Acc	115.30	122.70	- 0.30	4.58
Brit Fxdndis Inc	79.01	84.06	- 0.22	4.58
Global Opps	108.50	115.50†	+ 2.30	0.12
Balanced Acc	63.49	67.56†	+ 0.23	2.55
Balanced Inc	60.06	63.90†	+ 0.27	2.55
Japan Acc	50.54	53.77†	+ 0.43	.
Pac Basin Acc	429.00	456.40†	+ 1.70	0.66
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	128.80	136.60	+ 0.70	7.32
High Inc Equity	182.60	196.30†	+ 0.50	4.41
Worldwide Bond	286.70	304.10†	+ 2.70	4.60
American Growth	378.60	402.80	+17.10	0.19
Asian Pacific	353.60	378.30	+ 0.80	0.08
Assets & Earnings	305.00	324.50†	+ 1.60	2.58
Euro Capital Acc	181.80	194.40	+ 4.30	0.81
Extra Inc	43.82	46.62†	- 0.23	6.11
General	280.70	298.60	+ 0.40	2.94
Global Opps	70.55	75.05	+ 1.53	0.53
Japan	136.10	144.50	+ 1.30	.
Managed Inc	48.22	51.30†	+ 0.04	4.63
Mastertrust	172.00	184.00	+ 2.80	1.33
US Emerging Cos	330.80	345.50	+14.90	
Ethical	83.95	89.31	+ 0.39	2.51
International	145.40	154.70	+ 2.80	0.25
Dividend & Growth	68.48	72.85	+ 0.13	4.21
Global Gwth & Sec	72.80	77.78	+ 0.25	2.47
Latin America	65.53	69.71	+ 2.10	
Capital Reserve	143.40	143.40	+ 0.10	5.23
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
[illegible] Small Cos	2323.00	2412.00	+27.00	
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	60.18	62.52†	+ 2.27	0.49
Emerging Mkts	76.74	81.02	+ 1.28	0.04
European	152.80	158.90	+ 2.80	..
Exempt	1071.80	1140.30†	+14.10	1.63
Extra Income #	48.65	51.35	- 0.07	6.45
Far East Emg Ecn	140.30	147.30	+ 1.20	0.42
Fixed Interest #	24.54	25.52†	+ 0.04	9.30
Fund Inv Tst	156.10	163.90†	+ 0.80	9.36
Japan	200.80	208.90	+ 3.10	
Latin American	59.14	61.68	+ 2.01	0.79
Pacific	90.53	95.06†	+ 0.89	0.28
Property Share	69.65	73.12	+ 0.52	2.40
UK Emerging Cos	74.49	80.52	+ 0.98	1.20
UK Growth	52.07	55.01†	+ 0.56	2.13
Aber World Port #	83.70	85.29	+ 0.78	1.84
Ethical	78.87	82.02	+ 0.35	2.15
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.59	50.59	+ 0.18	7.42
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	102.11	109.83	- 0.72	2.36
American Portfolio	122.83	130.35	+ 3.76	0.09
European Portfolio	131.39	140.13	+ 3.18	0.64
High Income	50.60	50.71‡	- 0.37	7.93
Japanese Portfolio	74.88	79.54	- 0.65	
Pacific Portfolio	163.86	176.20	+ 1.07	1.35
UK Equity	97.42	104.01	+ 0.57	3.07
UK Equity & Bd	55.96	59.27	- 0.44	6.41
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	754.15	766.65	2.57	4.23
Fxd In Sec	153.96	154.52	+ 1.64	9.25
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	744.67	756.88	- 6.50	4.34
Investment Acc	1533.56	1534.07	- 29.40	
Fixed Int Inc	124.81	125.31	+ 0.73	9.26
Fixed Int Acc	217.23	218.11	+ 0.40	. .
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	88.68	93.68	+ 1.53	3.17
Beck Bio-Tech	51.92	55.95	+ 3.12	
Acorn Ethical Tst	190.55	200.09	- 3.79	0.56
City Fin Assets	81.88	85.99‡	+ 2.06	1.56
City Fin America	122.75	128.30‡	+ 3.63	
City Fin Intl	97.15	102.02†	- 0.39	0.47
City Fin Japan	167.10	175.47	- 1.00	
Friars Hse Cap	328.64	349.62	- 0.07	2.15
Friars Hse Inc	200.21	212.99†	+ 0.40	3.61
Buckley Wrld Grth	156.43	165.81	+ 3.66	
J Std Inc/Gth Inc	57.38	60.25	- 0.55	1.56
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	60.47	64.16	+ 1.06	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 373 393				
American Grth	84.43	89.82	+ 4.61	
Dragon Growth	76.21	81.50	+ 1.16	0.37
Equity High Inc	89.79	95.52	- 0.01	4.10
-do- Accum	126.38	134.45	- 0.01	4.10
Extra Income Inc	25.96	27.33	- 0.17	7.55
Extra Income Acc	27.76	29.23	+ 0.18	7.55
European Gwth	64.28	68.70	+ 1.56	0.94
Evergreen	32.51	34.77	+ 1.12	
General Equity	101.23	107.41	+ 0.38	2.86
Japan Growth	57.18	60.83	+ 0.73	
Pentagree Gwth	63.09	67.12	+ 0.54	2.35
Pad Sm Cos Inc	39.25	41.76†	+ 0.29	1.18
-do- Accum	41.59	44.24	+ 0.30	1.18
Retirement Inc #	27.83	29.61	+ 0.08	5.84
Special Sits	48.72	51.83	+ 0.13	1.95
UK & Overseas	60.98	64.70	+ 1.36	0.53
COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD				
01634 898 000				
Balanced	68.49	71.25	+ 0.53	4.03
Capital	81.97	85.38	+ 0.57	2.30
High Income	50.01	52.02†	+ 0.49	7.29
Top 50	54.64	56.84	+ 0.31	2.15
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	189.43	201.52†	+ 1.24	4.56
Long Gtr	41.87	44.41‡	+ 0.43	6.46
Monthly Inc Plus	48.91	52.03	+ 0.26	8.61
Preference Share	47.08	50.09†	+ 0.27	7.95
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	137.17	145.93†	+ 1.26	5.86
Managed Fund	77.11	82.03†	+ 0.88	2.86

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Sector Value Gwth	100.40	106.00†	+ 0.40	2.19
Hq 5 Europe	100.90	106.00	+ 0.50	2.63
States Grth	141.10	150.50	+ 1.90	
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	256.20	272.50	+17.80	
Income #	213.23	226.83	+ 2.29	3.77
UK Growth	85.12	90.55	+ 0.45	1.89
Intl Growth	93.34	99.29	+ 1.90	0.43
Ecology	107.30	114.14†	+ 1.53	0.94
European	192.11	204.37	+ 5.58	
Far Eastern	334.00	355.20	- 1.70	
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01820 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1502.90	1524.40†	+15.30	2.90
Income #	1033.10	1048.80	- 0.90	4.00
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	168.40	172.80	- 0.10	3.50

For Manulife see Canada Life

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers. 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Fund Income	98.94	102.40	+ 0.70	7.61
Gilt Yield	117.40	123.60	- 0.70	6.87
Global Income	237.50	252.70†	+ 4.80	3.51
High Yield	153.50	163.30†	+ 2.30	5.49
-do- Accum	493.70	525.20†	+ 7.50	5.49
Smllr Cos Dis	64.34	68.45†	+ 1.31	3.14
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	164.30	174.80	+10.40	
Asian Growth	369.50	393.10	+ 3.10	0.21
-do- Accum	434.20	461.90	+ 3.60	0.21
North American	110.70	117.80	+ 4.90	0.22
European Special	130.00	138.30	+ 3.00	0.09
European	181.50	193.10	+ 3.00	0.42
-do- Accum	239.30	254.60	+ 3.90	0.42
Global Gth Inc	122.70	130.20	+ 1.60	1.57
Japan	452.30	481.10	- 1.70	
Japanese Special	259.00	275.50	- 2.10	
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
M & S Inv Ptolio	178.30	183.90	+ 1.90	2.35
-do- Accum	209.30	215.80	+ 2.20	2.35
UK Sel Ptolio	156.90	160.70	+ 1.00	2.41
-do- Accum	185.20	191.00	+ 1.10	2.41
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	72.89	77.54	+ 0.05	3.90
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	83.05	88.16	+ 0.40	4.07
European	105.30	111.70	+ 1.60	0.43
Income #	82.42	87.49†	+ 0.01	4.63
Nth American	94.95	100.80	+ 2.39	0.27
Far East	193.60	205.50	+ 1.90	0.03
Japan	68.13	72.33	+ 0.69	
Emrgng Mkts	94.32	100.90	+ 1.31	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Special Sits	150.60	160.20	+ 1.20	1.39
-do- Accum	165.70	176.30	+ 1.30	1.39
Technology	838.10	889.50	+47.50	
UK Blue Chip	85.63	90.99	+ 0.82	2.99
-do- Accum	99.28	104.60	+ 1.00	2.99

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Intl Growth Inc	245.20	260.90	+ 5.30	0.33
Wwde Venture Inc	99.20	105.60	+ 2.80	1.02

JUST A SMALL ONE.

THE FAMOUS GROUSE
FINEST SCOTCH WHISKY

Dushyantor fights hoof infection

By Julian Muscat

HENRY CECIL was yesterday optimistic that Dushyantor, who returned from York with an infected foot, would be in the Derby line-up on June 8. The colt is expected to resume his Epsom preparation early next week.

Dushyantor was made second favourite for the Blue Riband after chasing home Glory Of Dancer in the Dante Stakes on Wednesday. But Cecil, who trains the son of Sadler's Wells, dismissed suggestions that the colt was seriously injured. "He is fine," he said. "There was a scare but he will be back in exercise on Monday." The colt is expected to gallop at Newmarket towards the end of the week.

Although such a setback is unwelcome, details of the injury offered relief to Dushyantor's many supporters. A day of rumour and innuendo started with reports that he had been ruled out altogether with ligament damage. Bookmakers withdrew the colt from their betting lists at lunchtime, only to reinstate him on Cecil's bulletin.

Like most rumours, this one had a basis in fact. A veterinary inspection of Dushyantor on Wednesday evening diagnosed a damaged suspensory ligament. But further assessments yesterday morning identified the root of Dushyantor's ills. "They thought after the race that he'd got a suspensory," Cecil said. "He was very sore in his leg but luckily it turned out to be an infection."

William Hill responded by easing Dushyantor to 7-1 from two points shorter. Ladbrokes adpoted a less reactionary stance, adding just half a point to Dushyantor's pre-injury odds of 11-2. Both Ladbrokes and Coral reported strong backing yesterday for Dr Massini. The Glasgow Stakes winner has deposed Glory Of Dancer as favourite with Ladbrokes and is now a 9-2 chance, with Glory Of Dancer bracketed at 5-1.

The infection to Dushyantor, located in the coronet which joins hoof and limb, has been drained from his off-foreleg, which has been bandaged to minimise the threat of further infection. In itself, the injury should not seriously prejudice Dushyantor's prospects of peaking on Derby day. However, the issue is complicated because the colt is plagued by cracks to the wall of his hooves.

Three of Dushyantor's hooves were fortified by wire binding when he chased home Glory Of Dancer on Wednesday. Two had been similarly protected when he ran at Newmarket. Cecil said the infected limb was unrelated to Dushyantor's hoof problems. Nevertheless, his task in honing the colt for Epsom will be more difficult if the ground on Newmarket Heath stays fast.

An infection of an entirely different nature has afflicted Nash House, who finished a disappointing fourth in the Dante. The colt was found to be off colour after the race and his trainer, Peter Chapple-Hyam, said yesterday: "He had a high white blood cell count, which is only a minor problem." The Manton trainer has not abandoned hopes that Nash House will make the Derby line-up.

As the Derby picture unfolded at Newbury yesterday, Mezzogiorno advanced her credentials for the fillies' equivalent with a comfortable defeat of Quota in the Vodafone Group Fillies' Trial. This marked a return to favour for the Unfuwain filly, who singularly failed to shine — both in her coat and the race — when tackling the Nell Gwyn Stakes last month.

"I have been very light on her," Geoffrey Wragg, her trainer, said. "She should improve a lot and stay forever." Mezzogiorno is certainly a more intriguing Oaks prospect than Ladbrokes' post-race 16-1 quote would suggest.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ELECTION DAY
(2.30 Newbury)
Next best: Spectrum
(3.00 Newbury)

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Spectrum attempts to collect another group one win in the Lockinge Stakes at Newbury this afternoon

Prospect of rain inspires confidence in Spectrum

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

AFTER suffering a couple of reverses at York this week, most notably with Nash House, Peter Chapple-Hyam can bounce back in style this afternoon by winning the Juddmonte Lockinge Stakes at Newbury with **Spectrum**.

The Manton trainer likes nothing better than landing the spoils at his local track and there are excellent grounds — not least the weather — for believing he can lift the group one prize.

Although the going at the Berkshire course was officially good to firm yesterday, it was good to soft in places after overnight rain. With heavy showers forecast to arrive this morning, last season's Irish 2,000 Guineas and Champion Stakes winner should be in his element.

The son of Rainbow Quest unquestionably performs best with give in the ground and this proven group one performer holds outstanding claims after an encouraging pipe-opener in the Prix Ganay at Longchamp last month. He looked as though he would cruise to victory 1½ furlongs out that day, but lack of a previous run told in the closing stages on ground that was plenty fast enough for him. The step back to a mile should not inconvenience him and he looks worth an interest.

The lightly raced Charnwood Forest, switched from Henry Cecil's yard to Godolphin last year, has the potential to become a top miler judged on the way he was runner-up in the St James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot on only his second start. However, the Warning colt has raced only on fast going and his style of running suggests he may not be so effective with softer conditions underfoot.

Soviet Line, an unlucky-in-running second to Gabr in the Sandown Mile, is weighted to reverse the form here but Smart Alec looks a bigger danger.

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

Lord Huntingdon is another trainer with a penchant for lining up a victory at Newbury, especially in handicaps, and he appears to have an ideal opportunity of upholding an excellent record with **Arabian Story**, owned and bred by the Queen, in the London Gold Cup Rated Handicap (2.00).

The winner of his only start last year, the stoutly bred Sharrood colt was caught close home over a mile on his seasonal reappearance at Pontefract a month ago but should come into his own now that he is stepped up to 1½ miles.

Nador appeared to benefit from more patient riding tactics when finishing fourth behind Jackson Hill at Salisbury 13 days ago, and David Loder's Rainbow Quest colt should also appreciate the step up in distance and the expected ground conditions. Samraan was slightly disappointing behind Dushyantor at Newmarket but would have sound claims if returning to the form which saw him win a Kempton maiden run, significantly, on easy ground.

After a slow start to the season, Michael Stoute is firing on all cylinders and **Election Day** is a confident choice to keep the bandwagon rolling by taking a competitive Quantel Aston Park Stakes (2.30).

Considered good enough to line up for the Ormonde Stakes at Chester last week after winning a Pontefract maiden, the Sadler's Wells colt showed markedly improved form when chasing home Oscar Schindler. He finished fast that day, having been denied a clear run for much of the final circuit, and has scope to improve as this listed event is only the fourth race of his career.

NEWBURY

THUNDERER

2.00 *Al's Alibi*
2.30 Posidonas
3.00 Charnwood Forest
3.30 SAILORMAITE (nap)
4.00 Maid By The Fire
4.30 Amfortas
5.00 Queen's Insignia
5.30 Sharaf Kabeer

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: **2.30 ELECTION DAY.**

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 ELECTION DAY (nap).
3.00 Charnwood Forest. 4.30 Count Basie.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — DRAW: 6F-1M STR, HIGH NUMBERS BEST
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING — SIS

2.00 LONDON GOLD CUP RATED HANDICAP

BBC1

(3-Y-O: £9,540: 1m 4f 5yd) (10 runners)

101	(2)	503212-	WARBROOK 215 (F) (J Smith) I Balding 9-7	R Cochrane	93
102	(9)	4-13	SAMRAAN 14 (G) (K Al-Mudhaf) J Dunlop 9-5	T Quinn	95
103	(10)	1336-	EXALTED 203 (G) (Mrs F Walls) M Prescott 9-4	S Sanders	91
104	(3)	10-64	NADOR 13 (G) (Sheikh Mohammed) D Loder 9-3	R Hughes	93
105	(4)	4100-21	NABHAAN 30 (D,F) (Hamdan Al Maktoum) D Morley 8-12	W Carson	96
106	(5)	1-2	ARABIAN STORY 31 (BF,F) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 8-9	J Reid	▣
107	(1)	5231-5	NOSEY NATIVE 28 (F) (J Furlong) J Pearce 8-9	G Bardwell	91
108	(6)	25-6510	AL'S ALIBI 10 (CD,G) (Sussex Stud) W Muir 8-7	M J Kinane	98
109	(7)	53-05	CLOUDS HILL 12 (BF) (Mrs P Jubert) R Hannon 8-7	Dane O'Neill (3)	95
110	(8)	4-31034	BURNT OFFERING 7 (G) (A Richards) C Brittain 8-7	B Doyle	97

Long handicap: Clouds Hill 8-5, Burnt Offering 7-13

BETTING: 7-2 Nabhaan, 4-1 Al's Alibi, Arabian Story, Samraan, 8-1 Nador, 12-1 Clouds Hill, Exalted, 14-1 Warbrook, 16-1 Nosey Native, 25-1 Burnt Offering

1995: KORAMBI 9-5 B Doyle (12-1) C Brittain 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

WARBROOK 2½l 2nd of 6 to West-A-Minute in listed race at Pontefract (1m, firm). SAMRAAN 5½l 3rd of 3 to Dushyantor in conditions race at Newmarket (1m 4f, good to firm). EXALTED neck and 2l 3rd of 10 to Crystal Falls in nursery at Doncaster (1m, good to firm) on penultimate start. NADOR 6¾l 4th of 7 to Jackson Hill in handicap at Salisbury (1m 2f, good). NABHAAN beat Jackson Park 3l in 7-runner handicap at Ripon (1m 4f 60yd, good to firm) with BURNT OFFERING (4lb worse off) neck 3rd. ARABIAN STORY neck 2nd of 7 to Cheerful Aspect in rated stakes at Pontefract (1m, good). AL'S ALIBI beat Infamous 3½l in 12-runner handicap over course and distance (good to soft) on penultimate. BURNT OFFERING 3¾l last of 4 to General Macarthur in rated stakes at Beverley (1m 4f, good to firm).
Selection: SAMRAAN

RAPID RACELINE
0930 168+ COMMENTARY RESULTS

NEWBURY	101	201
THIRSK	102	202
BANGOR	103	203
SOUTHWELL	104	204
LINGFIELD	105	205
HAMILTON	106	206
FAKENHAM	107	207

FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Bath (first race, 2.15), Musselburgh (6.30), Southwell (2.00), Windsor (6.15).
TUESDAY: Beverley (2.25), Goodwood (BBC, 2.10).
WEDNESDAY: Goodwood (BBC, 2.10), Newcastle (Sky, 6.30), Salisbury (Sky, 6.15), Worcester (2.25).
THURSDAY: Exeter (6.15), Goodwood (2.10), Newcastle (2.25), Uttoxeter (6.30).
FRIDAY: Brighton (2.10), Haydock Park (2.00), Nottingham (2.20), Pontefract (Sky, 6.45), Towcester (Sky, 6.20).
SATURDAY: Cartmel (2.10), Doncaster (C4, 2.20), Haydock Park (BBC, 2.00), Hexham (2.15), Kempton Park (C4, 2.05), Lingfield Park (AW, Sky, 6.10), Warwick (Sky, 6.25), Wolverhampton (AW, 7.00).

Flat meetings in bold

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .. B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.30 QUANTEL ASTON PARK STAKES

BBC1

(Listed race: £12,185: 1m 5f 61yd) (11 runners)

201	(8)	3/10115-	POSIDONAS 216 (C,G,S) (A Christodoulou) P Cole 4-9-7	T Quinn	91
202	(3)	0210-16	FURTHER FLIGHT 9 (C,F,G,S) (S Wingfield Digby) B Hills 10-9-4	M Hills	92
203	(10)	12221-3	MINDS MUSIC 9 (BF,F,G) (Niarchos Family) H Cecil 4-9-1	Pat Eddery	96
204	(2)	613262-	ARCTIC THUNDER 84J (F,G) (Merthyr Motors) Lady Herries 5-8-12	T Sprake	84
205	(5)	25210-2	BAHAMIAN SUNSHINE 12 (BF,G,S) (Lucayan Stud) D Loder 5-8-12	B Thomson	84
206	(11)	610255-	CUFF LINK 231 (F) (Lord Weinstock) W Hern 6-8-12	Paul Eddery	92
207	(7)	006/54-3	DJAIS 14 (G,S) (T Long) J Jenkins 7-8-12	R Cochrane	88
208	(6)	0-12	ELECTION DAY 6 (G) (Lord Weinstock) M Stoute 4-8-12	W Carson	▣
209	(1)	3014-30	NAKED WELCOME 15 (F,G) (Most Welcome) M Fetherston-Godley 4-8-12	J Reid	94
210	(4)	12-1	PROPOSING 12 (F,G) (Marwan Al Maktoum) J Gosden 4-8-12	M J Kinane	79
211	(9)	30122/1	SUPLIZI 21 (F,G) (Scuderia Rencati Srl) L Cumani 5-8-12	R Hughes	90

BETTING: 5-2 Election Day, 7-2 Minds Music, 6-1 Suplizi, 7-1 Posidonas, Proposing, 8-1 Bahamian Sunshine, 10-1 Further Flight, 12-1 others

1995: ESCARPMENT 4-8-12 J Reid (9-1) P Chapple-Hyam 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

POSIDONAS beat Silicious 3½l in 7-runner group I Gran Premio d'Italia at San Siro, Milan (1m 4f, very soft) penultimate start.
FURTHER FLIGHT beat Assessor 1¾l in 4-runner conditions race at Nottingham (1m 6f, good to firm) penultimate start.
MINDS MUSIC beat Mack The Knife 2½l in 7-runner listed race at Newmarket (1m 4f, good to firm) final start last year.
ARCTIC THUNDER 3½l 2nd of 23 to Whitechapel in handicap over course and distance (good to soft) final start last season. DJAIS 4¾l 3rd of 5 to Florid in conditions race at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to firm). ELECTION DAY 1½l 2nd of 7 to Oscar Schindler in group III Ormonde Stakes at Chester (1m 5f 89yd, good) with MINDS MUSIC (3lb worse off) short-head 3rd and FURTHER FLIGHT (3lb worse off) 3½l 6th. NAKED WELCOME 3½l 2nd of 11 to Singspiel in group III Gordon Richards Stakes at Sandown (1m 2f, good) penultimate start. PROPOSING beat BAHAMIAN SUNSHINE (7lb better off) 1¼l in match for conditions race at Kempton (1m 6f 92yd, good to firm)
SUPLIZI beat Prussian Blue 1¼l in conditions race at Ripon (1m 4f 60yd, good)
Selection: POSIDONAS

3.00 JUDDMONTE LOCKINGE STAKES

BBC1

(Group I: £74,731: 1m str) (7 runners)

301	(2)	2/121-	CHARNWOOD FOREST 309 (D,F) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 4-9-0	M J Kinane	90
302	(3)	6210-41	GABR 22 (D,F,G,S) (Hamdan Al Maktoum) R Armstrong 6-9-0	W Carson	93
303	(4)	1/350-34	NWAAMIS 22 (S) (Hamdan Al Maktoum) J Dunlop 4-9-0	Pat Eddery	90
304	(7)	11/2	SMART ALEC 31 (BF,F) (G Leigh) L Cumani 4-9-0	R Cochrane	92-
305	(1)	4326-02	SOVIET LINE 22 (CD,F,G) (Maktoum Al Maktoum) M Stoute 6-9-0	T Quinn	98
306	(5)	11021-4	SPECTRUM 20 (CD,F,G,S) (Lord Weinstock) P Chapple-Hyam 4-9-0	J Reid	▣
307	(6)	301000-	BRIEF GLIMPSE 231 (C,F,G) (Whitaways Racing) D Chappell 4-8-11	M Hills	79

BETTING: 5-4 Spectrum, 3-1 Charnwood Forest, 5-1 Smart Alec, 6-1 Soviet Line, 10-1 Gabr, 12-1 Nwaamis, 33-1 Brief Glimpse

1995: SOVIET LINE 5-9-0 W R Swinburn (2-1 fav) M Stoute 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

CHARNWOOD FOREST beat Soemaq by 3l in 4-runner conditions race at York (7f 202yd, good to firm) last year. On penultimate start 4l 2nd of 9 to Bahri in group I St James' Palace Stakes at Ascot (1m, good to firm).
GABR beat SOVIET LINE (6lb better off) short-head in 12-runner Sandown Mile at Sandown (1m, good) with NWAAMIS ¾l 4th.
SMART ALEC head 2nd of 9 to Luso in group III Earl Of Sefton Stakes at Newmarket (1m 1f, good to firm) with GABR 2¼l 4th. SPECTRUM about 3½l 4th of 14 to Valanour in group I Prix Ganay at Longchamp (1m 2f 110yd, good to firm). Last season beat Adjareli 1l in 9-runner Irish 2000 Guineas at The Curragh (1m, good to firm) with NWAAMIS 5½l 7th.
BRIEF GLIMPSE best effort to beat Cheyenne Spirit 2l in 10-runner listed race at Goodwood (7f, good to firm), July 95.
Selection: SPECTRUM (nap)

3.30 WINCHESTER HANDICAP

(£5,615: 6f 8yd) (14 runners)

401	(7)	1003-00	BOWDEN ROSE 14 (B,D,F,G) (Mrs C Ward) M Blanshard 4-8-13	R Cochrane	91
402	(4)	303-101	LATCHING 19 (D,F,G) R Johnson Houghton 4-9-12	J Reid	95
403	(13)	224416	GOLDEN POUND 7 (B,D,F) (A Griffin) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-11	Dane O'Neill (3)	90
404	(1)	0-00225	SIR JOEY 7 (D,F,S) (Mrs A Sims) P Murphy 7-9-10	S Drowne (3)	96
405	(2)	042-540	SAILORMAITE 21 (D,G,S) (S Bowring) S Bowring 5-9-8	R Price	94
406	(3)	433-002	TART AND A HALF 7 (B,F) (P Boggis) B Meehan 4-9-7	B Doyle	▣
407	(6)	000-042	HOW'S YER FATHER 7 (D,F,G,S) (Uplands Farm) R Hodges 10-9-7	Pat Eddery	95
408	(9)	10-6021	INTIAASH 16 (D,F,G) (R Howard Thomas) D Haydn Jones 4-9-2	Martin Dwyer (5)	91
409	(5)	02350-0	BAYIN 14 (CD,F,G,S) (T Barker) M Usher 7-9-1	R Street	87
410	(11)	65-4	PERSIAN BUTTERFLY 35 (D Hallums) I Campbell 4-8-13	S Sanders	92
411	(14)	00500-0	THATCHERELLA 14 (D,F,G,S) (J Widdows) D Chappell 5-8-10	B Thomson	97
412	(10)	32-24	DOMAK AMAAM 30 (BF) (Ahmed Al Maktoum) J Gosden 3-8-9	M J Kinane	93
413	(12)	4500-00	OGGI 16 (B,CD,G) (Skyline Racing) P Makin 5-8-6	Paul Eddery	89
414	(8)	0400-00	LOUISVILLE BELLE 7 (C,D,F,G) (Mrs M Pearson) M Usher 7-7-13	N Adams	85

Long handicap: Louisville Belle 7-5

BETTING: 11-2 Domak Amaam, 6-1 How's Yer Father, 7-1 Sir Joey, 8-1 Tart And A Half, 10-1 Latching, Oggi, Persian Butterfly, Sailormaite, Thatcherella, 12-1 Bayin, Golden Pound, Intiaash, 14-1 others

1995: BAYIN 6-8-2 R Street (14-1) M Usher 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

LATCHING beat Ella short-head in 13-runner handicap at Kempton (6f, good to firm) with HOW'S YER FATHER (3lb better off) 2¾l 4th. GOLDEN POUND over 8l 6th of 10 to Neuwest in 10-runner handicap at Lingfield (7f, good to firm)) Best Bailey's First 3l in 6-runner rated stakes at Thirsk (6f, good to firm) on penultimate start. SIR JOEY neck 2nd of 24 to Jayannpee in handicap at Newmarket (6f, good to firm) on penultimate start with BOWDEN ROSE (6lb better off) 4l 8th. THATCHERELLA (5lb better off) 5l 16th and BAYIN (5lb better off) 5l 20th. SAILORMAITE 5½l 4th of 13 to Anzio in handicap here (good to soft) on penultimate start with HOW'S YER FATHER 5¾l 11th and BOWDEN ROSE (2lb worse off) 3l 13th.
TART AND HALF neck 2nd of 12 to To The Roof in handicap at Bath (5f, good to firm) with SIR JOEY (4lb better off) 5¾l 5th and LOUISVILLE BELLE (2lb better off) 4l 10th.
HOW'S YER FATHER short-head 2nd of 14 to Prima Silk in handicap at Lingfield (6f, good to firm).
INTIAASH beat Palacegate Touch 3½l in 10-runner claimer at Wolverhampton (7f, 6f). DOMAK AMAAM about 1¾l 4th of 15 to Galine in handicap at Newmarket (6f, good to firm)
Selection: LATCHING

4.00 KINGWOOD STUD MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES

(2-Y-O: £3,574: 6f 8yd) (6 runners)

501	(3)	2	COPPERBEECH 28 (A Gillespie) P Chapple-Hyam 8-11	J Reid	▣
502	(1)		DASHING ROCKSVILLE (Crews Missile Synd) M Channon 8-11	R Hughes	–
503	(5)		MAID BY THE FIRE (A Lloyd Webber) P Cole 8-11	T Quinn	–
504	(6)	33	MARCH STAR 15 (G Cobey) J Toller 8-11	W Carson	98
505	(4)		RAINDANCING (N Hayes) R Hannon 8-11	Pat Eddery	–
506	(2)		SIMPLE LOGIC (Miss J Reed) A Foster 8-11	T Sprake	–

BETTING: 2-1 Copperbeech, 11-4 Maid By The Fire, 4-1 Dashing Rocksville, Raindancing, 10-1 March Star, 16-1 Simple Logic

1995: AMAZING BAY 8-11 L Dettori (7-1) I Balding 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

COPPERBEECH 3½l 2nd of 7 to Cherry Blossom in maiden auction here (5f, good to soft) with MARCH STAR short-head 3rd. DASHING ROCKSVILLE (foaled Mar 10; cost 2,300gns) Half-sister by Rock City minor 1m/1m 3f winner Eden Dancer; dam, from family of In The Groove, modest middle-distance maiden. MAID BY THE FIRE Half-sister by El Gran Senor to three minor winners in North America; dam unraced. MARCH STAR 1l and neck 3rd of 13 to Dame Laura in maiden auction at Newmarket (5f, good to firm). RAINDANCING (Mar 30, 50,000gns). First foal, by Tirol; dam, sister to high-class 1m/1m 2f performer Bold Arrangement, lightly raced juvenile. SIMPLE LOGIC (Mar 29, 4,400gns) Half-sister by Aragon to three winners including multiple 6f/7f scorer Palacegate Touch; dam unraced.
Selection: COPPERBEECH

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
P Chapple-Hyam	35	131	26.7	J Reid	44	248	17.7
Miss G Kelleway	4	15	26.7	Pat Eddery	42	237	17.7
L Cumani	13	50	26.0	W Carson	32	207	15.5
J Gosden	31	120	25.8	D Harrison	14	110	12.7
R Charlton	19	104	18.3	S Drowne	3	24	12.5
H Cecil	15	84	17.9	R Cochrane	17	145	11.7
Lady Herries	6	37	16.2	T Quinn	21	210	10.0

4.30 DENNIS TOWNSEND 70TH BIRTHDAY MAIDEN STAKES

(Div I: 3-Y-O: £3,314: 1m 2f 6yd) (13 runners)

601	(8)	00	AMFORTAS 21 (B Voak) C Brittain 9-0	B Doyle	88
602	(12)	4-	ARCTIID 330 (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 9-0	P Robinson	75
603	(5)	04	BATTLE SPARK 14 (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 9-0	W J O'Connor	85
604	(13)	6	BECHSTEIN 28 (B Andersson) J Dunlop 9-0	T Quinn	74
605	(11)	4	COMIC'S FUTURE 40 (A Collins) P Chapple-Hyam 9-0	R Havlin (5)	–
606	(6)	2	COUNT BASIE 19 (Lucayan Stud) H Cecil 9-0	Pat Eddery	▣
607	(2)	44-	HARBOUR DUES 208 (Hesmonds Stud) Lady Herries 9-0	R Cochrane	70
608	(9)	40	KING RUFUS 7 (Mrs A Pittendrigh) J Arnold 9-0	D Harrison	80
609	(4)	00	MATHON 13 (Mrs N Mathias) M Channon 9-0	R Hughes	–
610	(1)		SERENUS (E Robins) Lord Huntingdon 9-0	S Sanders	–
611	(3)	2632-	SKILLINGTON 253 (G Strawbridge) I Balding 9-0	M Hills	94
612	(7)	0-	DALWHINNIE 211 (Ibra Racing) J Hills 8-9	M Henry (5)	–
613	(10)		GOOSEBERRY PIE (Mrs A Skiffington) R Charlton 8-9	T Sprake	–

BETTING: 6-4 Count Basie, 9-2 Skillington, 5-1 Arctiid, 10-1 Bechstein, Gooseberry Pie, 12-1 Amfortas, 14-1 others

1995: DANJING 9-0 C Rutter (4-1) P Cole 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

AMFORTAS 14l 7th to Santillana in the group three at Sandown (1m 2f, good). COUNT BASIE ½l 2nd of 13 to Murheb in maiden at Kempton (1m 2f, firm). HARBOUR DUES 7¼l 4th of 11 to Dance On A Cloud in maiden at Leicester (7f, firm). SKILLINGTON head 2nd of 17 to Heron Island in maiden at Doncaster (1m, good to soft)
Selection: SKILLINGTON

5.00 HEADLEY FILLIES HANDICAP

(3-Y-O: £4,029: 7f 64yd) (14 runners)

1	(4)	503-	AL SHADEEDAH 213 (Umm Qarn Racing) L Cumani 9-7	M J Kinane	88
2	(6)	1035-61	ANTONIAS MELODY 21 (G,S) (Mrs B Georgiou) S Bowring 9-2	C Teague (5)	98
3	(9)	2311-0	JUBILEE PLACE 16 (F) (T Chick) T Thomson Jones 9-1	Paul Eddery	92
4	(1)	36431-0	CAPILANO PRINCESS 16 (D,F) (H Collis) D Haydn Jones 9-1	A Mackay	98
5	(5)	413-232	GOLDEN POND 15 (F) (J Horgan) R Johnson Houghton 9-0	J Reid	▣
6	(13)	40-02	PETIT POINT 13 (Lady Tennant) R Hannon 8-13	Pat Eddery	92
7	(11)	234142	GREEN GEM 15 (D,S) (P Madelein) S Williams 8-12	B Doyle	98
8	(3)	34-15	SONDOS 31 (BF,G) (Z Galadari) J Hills 8-10	M Henry (5)	90
9	(2)	003-	COMMIN' UP 215 (Abbott Racing) J Hills 8-10	M Hills	90
10	(8)	043310	VICTIM OF LOVE 30 (D,G) (N Bryce-Smith) R Charlton 8-8	S Sanders	94
11	(14)	54110-	QUEEN'S INSIGNIA 213 (F,G) (W Ponsonby) P Cole 8-8	T Quinn	95
12	(10)	500-0	TIAMA 19 (G Steinberg) S Dow 8-3	Dane O'Neill (3)	94
13	(12)	000-03	SHARP 'N' SHADY 24 (W Wallick) C Wall 8-2	W Lord	96
14	(7)	3-60	VOLARE 7 (A Helassi) B Meehan 7-13	W Carson	90

BETTING: 4-1 Petit Point, 5-1 Antonias Melody, 6-1 Al Shadeedah, 8-1 Golden Pond, Queen's Insignia, 10-1 Green Gem, Sharp 'N' Shady, 12-1 others

1995: FOREST CAT 9-7 J Reid (5-1) Mrs J Cecil 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

AL SHADEEDAH 1½l 3rd of 11 to Prize Giving in maiden at Yarmouth (7f, firm). ANTONIAS MELODY beat Montrestar 1¼l in 16-runner handicap at Ripon (6f, good). GOLDEN POND short-head 2nd of 11 to Angel Chimes in handicap at Newmarket (7f, good to firm). PETIT POINT 1½l 2nd of 12 to Pleading in maiden at Salisbury (6f, good). COMMIN'UP head and neck 3rd to Maristar in maiden auction at Folkestone (7f, good). QUEEN'S INSIGNIA beat Goodwood Rocket 3l in nursery at Goodwood (1m, good).
Selection: GOLDEN POND

5.30 DENNIS TOWNSEND 70TH BIRTHDAY MAIDEN STAKES

(Div II: 3-Y-O: £3,288: 1m 2f 6yd) (13 runners)

1	(2)	2	ALZEUS 16 (Mrs B Sumner) C Horgan 9-0	Paul Eddery	▣
2	(3)		CREST WING (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 9-0	J Reid	–
3	(11)	6	CROWN COURT 13 (Lord De La Warr) L Cumani 9-0	M Hills	–
4	(13)		KING'S ACADEMY (M Poland) H Cecil 9-0	A McGlone	–
5	(7)		LEAD STORY (Maktoum Al Maktoum) E Dunlop 9-0	B Doyle	–
6	(8)	6-	PALAMON 235 (M Pescod) R Charlton 9-0	Pat Eddery	85
7	(6)	0-	REGAL EAGLE 281 (J Smith) I Balding 9-0	D Harrison	–
8	(4)	00	SEVENTH EDITION 7 (Bedlinog Racing) D Burchell 9-0	A Procter	82
9	(5)	66-	SHAHA 264 (S Suhail) R Hannon 9-0	Dane O'Neill (3)	81
10	(12)		SHARAF KABEER (Ahmed Al Maktoum) S bin Suroor 9-0	M J Kinane	–
11	(1)		FILLY MIGNONNE (Wafic Said) B Hills 8-9	B Thomson	–
12	(9)		QUEEN BEE (T Bader) J Dunlop 8-9	W Carson	–
13	(10)	00-	SYLVELLA 203 (J Fisher) M Jarvis 8-9	P Bloomfield	–

BETTING: 5-2 Sharaf Kabeer, 4-1 King's Academy, 5-1 Crest Wing, 8-1 Alzeus, 10-1 Palamon, 12-1 others

1995: DANJING 3-9-0 C Rutter (4-1) P Cole 12 ran

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LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

6.00 My Beloved. 6.30 The Noble Oak. 7.00 Glorious Aragon. 7.30 Moi Canard. 8.00 Wet Patch. 8.30 Kamari.

GOING: FIRM — SIS
DRAW: 5F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

6.00 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND CIDER MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,527: 5f) (7 runners)

1		SHARP RETURN M Ryan 9-0	D Biggs 2
2		SMART BOY P Cole 9-0	C Rutter 5
3		TALISMAN S Dow 9-0	A Daly (5) 4
4	U	TEAR WHITE 14 (B) T Mills 9-0	Mark Lynch 6
5		TOUGH LEADER B Hanbury 9-0	J Stack (3) 7
6		MY BELOVED R Hannon 8-9	R Hughes 1
7		SUPER SCRAVELS J Scargill 8-9	M Fenton 3

7-4 My Beloved, 7-2 Smart Boy, 5-1 Tough Leader, 6-1 Super Scravels, 8-1 Talisman, Sharp Return, 10-1 Tear White.

6.30 GIN & TONIC SELLING HANDICAP

(£2,637: 5f) (16)

1	5005	HALLIARD 12 (CD,G) T Jones 5-9-10	R Perham 3
2	0450	SECRET MISS 18 (CD,S) A Jones 4-9-8	R Cochrane 12
3	5166	LIFT BOY 32 (CD,F,G) A Moore 7-9-2	Candy Morris 11
4	-600	ALMAPA 16 (G) R Hodges 4-9-2	S Drowne (3) 9
5	0-60	JESSICA'S SONG 18 (D,F) W G M Turner 3-9-1	T Sprake 13
6	5060	ROCKY TWO 11 (V,D,G) P Howling 5-9-0	F Norton 7
7	0504	MUSIC MISTRESS 18 (CD,F) J Moore 3-8-13	W J O'Connor 5
8	0600	THE FED 26 (D,F,S) J Pickering 6-8-13	S Whitworth 8
9	00-0	ADMIRALS REALM 16 (D,F) A Newcombe 7-8-13	R Hughes 4
10	0600	ASSIGNMENT 12 (CD,F,G) J Long 10-8-11	P McCabe (3) 10
11	00/-	LITTLE GENT 667 J Long 5-8-11	T Field (7) 14
12	60-0	THE NOBLE OAK 8 (CD,F,G) M Bolton 8-8-10	G Carter 15
13	00-0	DEARDAW 13 M Usher 4-8-10	N Adams 16
14	3260	BOUTON D'OR 35 P Howling 3-8-8	D Biggs 6
15	-000	TOMMY TEMPEST 77 (V,CD,G,S) R Peacock 7-8-7	A Daly (5) 2
16	0050	THORNY BISHOP 7 (B,C,G) B Pearce 5-8-6	G Bardwell 1

5-1 Lift Boy, 6-1 Bouton D'Or, Music Mistress, 10-1 The Noble Oak, 12-1 Secret Miss, Rocky Two, The Fed, 14-1 others

7.00 KIR ROYAL MAIDEN STAKES

(£4,225: 6f) (16)

1	0-36	GLORIOUS ARAGON 9 R Johnson Houghton 4-9-2	T Ives 2
2	2/0	RISKY BABY 12 T Hind 4-9-2	S Drowne (3) 7
3	-220	ALPINE HIDEAWAY 11 B Hanbury 3-8-12	J Stack (3) 15
4	3	MELLOW MASTER 13 N Walker 3-8-12	C Rutter 16
5		MUTASARRIF H Thomson Jones 3-8-12	G Carter 5
6		NIGHTSWIMMING S Dow 3-8-12	A Daly (5) 11
7	0-0	STONEY END 28 M Channon 3-8-12	R Hughes 8
8	60-	BELLACARDIA 214 G Lewis 3-8-7	A Whelan (3) 14
9	0-23	BLESSED SPIRIT 25 C Wall 3-8-7	R Cochrane 4
10		DELPHINE M Bell 3-8-7	M Fenton 9
11	0	EMBER 15 L Cumani 3-8-7	S Sanders 12
12	0	FIRST GALLERY 25 R Flower 3-8-7	D Biggs 1
13	0	INTO DEBT 77 J Poulton 3-8-7	P McCabe (3) 6
14		MAJAS L Montague Hall 3-8-7	R Perham 10
15	2-	ONEFORTHEDITCH 231 J Gosden 3-8-7	A Garth 13
16	0-	SEA IDOL 209 P Cole 3-8-7	T Quinn 3

5-2 Onefortheditch, 7-1 Glorious Aragon, 8-1 Alpine Hideaway, Blessed Spirit, 12-1 Mutasarrif, Ember, 14-1 others

7.30 OASTWELL WINES HANDICAP

SKY

(3-Y-O: £4,424: 7f) (14)

1	41-4	ASHJAR 29 (CD,G) H Thomson Jones 9-7	G Carter 7
2	21-0	WORLDWIDE ELSIE 58 (D,F,G) R Rams 9-5	A Mackay 8
3	53-0	JUST MILLIE 35 (D,F) J Banks 9-3	J Stack (3) 9
4	20-0	SHEILANA 51 T Mills 9-1	J Connolly (7) 2
5	-335	WHITE PLAINS 24 (BF,F) M Bell 8-11	M Fenton 4
6	36-0	HENRY OTIS 12 R Akehurst 8-9	D Denby (7) 5
7	1504	MOI CANARD 12 (CD,F,G) B Pearce 8-3	M Henry (5) 10
8	0-35	NAKHAL 28 (V) D Murray Smith 8-3	Dane O'Neill (3) 14
9	3-03	SILVER HARROW 18 A Newcombe 8-2	S Sanders 6
10	-003	ED'S FOLLY 12 S Dow 8-1	A Daly (5) 3
11	00-0	GREY LEGEND 7 R Flower 7-13	D O'Shea 1
12	-001	MISTER WOODSTICK 8 (F) M Jarvis 7-11	G Bardwell 13
13	2500	SUNSET HARBOUR 16 T Naughton 7-10	F Norton 11
14	0-00	NEWLANDS CORNER 16 J Akehurst 7-10	N Adams 12

9-2 Ashjar, 5-1 Ed's Folly, 6-1 Moi Canard, 8-1 Nakhal, Mister Woodstick, 10-1 White Plains, 12-1 others.

8.00 S G B YOUNGMAN HANDICAP

SKY

(£3,562: 1m 2f) (16)

1	4-44	CONTRAFIRE 28 (CD,BF,F,G) W Jarvis 4-10-0	S Sanders 4
2	0-60	MR ROUGH 11 (F) D Morris 5-9-7	R Cochrane 13
3	5-40	ROI DE LA MER 21 (G) J Akehurst 5-9-7	G Carter 11
4	140-	PERSIAN CONQUEST 294 (B,CD,G) R Ingram 4-9-6	B Doyle 12
5	0034	WET PATCH 44 (CD,F,G) R Hannon 4-9-6	R Hughes 2
6	0000	ABTAAL 12 (G) R Hodges 6-9-6	A McGlone 5
7	00-0	RASMI 18 P Howling 5-9-4	F Norton 3
8	6600	DIGPAST 8 (B,C,G) R O'Sullivan 6-9-3	D Biggs 16
9	-600	IT'STHEBUSINESS 8 (V) S Dow 4-8-11	T Quinn 15
10	0045	ZAALEFF 9 (B) B Hanbury 4-8-10	J Stack (3) 8
11	10-0	DOUBLE RUSH 36 (CD,BF,G) T Mills 4-8-10	Mark Lynch 9
12	-546	SCORPIUS 12 (D,G) T Clement 6-8-10	G Bardwell 7
13	0-04	THE LITTLE FERRET 9 (F) A Moore 6-8-10	R Perham 14
14	00-4	SWEET ALLEGIANCE 121 J Poulton 6-8-10	P McCabe (3) 6
15	000-	EAST SHEEN 324 C Benstead 4-8-8	C Rutter 10
16	3560	SOUTH EASTERN FRED 58 (CD,F,G) H Collingridge 5-8-6	— 1

5-1 Wet Patch, 6-1 Contrafire, 8-1 Zaaleff, 12-1 Roi De La Mer, It'sthebusiness, Sweet Allegiance, 14-1 others

8.30 F T EVERARD & SONS MAIDEN STAKES (£4,126: 1m 1f) (12)

SKY

1	00	ELA-MENT 28 B Pearce 4-9-10	S Sanders 9
2	00-	AFRICAN SUN 221 B Hanbury 3-8-11	J Stack (3) 8
3	0	GAIN LINE 16 R Charlton 3-8-11	T Sprake 12
4	5-2	KAMARI 12 A Stewart 3-8-11	W Carson 4
5	-023	MAJOR DUNDEE 8 R Hannon 3-8-11	Dane O'Neill (3) 5
6	0-0	MR SPECULATOR 11 P Kelleway 3-8-11	C Domergue (7) 10
7	5	PEP TALK 11 H Cecil 3-8-11	A McGlone 7
8	50-	CLASSIC AFFAIR 219 R Harris 3-8-6	A Mackay 6
9	0-0	GIDDY 31 D Morley 3-8-6	R Cochrane 3
10	-600	NATIVE SONG 54 (B) M Haynes 3-8-6	M Baird (5) 1
11	0-0	PERSEPHONE 18 I Campbell 3-8-6	M Tebbutt 2
12		TEA PARTY K Cunningham-Brown 3-8-6	T Quinn 11

7-4 Major Dundee, 7-2 Kamari, 8-1 Gain Line, 10-1 Pep Talk, 12-1 others.

THIRSK

THUNDERER

2.15 Sharp But Fair. 2.45 Noble Dancer. 3.15 Cool Fire. 3.45 Samsolom. 4.15 Hammerstein. 4.45 Swynford Dream. 5.15 Place De L'Opera.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — SIS
DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.15 SKIPTON CLAIMING STAKES

(2-Y-O: £2,688: 5f) (9 runners)

1	(3)	0	BELLAF 12 M W Easterby 9-0	G Parkin (5)	73
2	(4)	550	CLASSIC PARTYGOER 31 M W Easterby 8-11	J F Egan	93
3	(2)		SAMSPET R Fahey 8-9	A Culhane	–
4	(1)	1	FONZY 9 (D,G) Mrs L Stubbs 8-8	J Weaver	84
5	(5)		IN GOOD NICK M W Easterby 8-6	Dale Gibson	–
6	(9)	1013	LAWFUL FIND 6 (D,G) R Hollinshead 8-5	K Fallon	94
7	(7)		PETRINE GRAY T Easterby 8-4	M Birch	–
8	(6)	210	FULL TRACEABILITY 10 (D,G) J Berry 8-2	J Carroll	▣
9	(8)	4	SHARP BUT FAIR 12 M Prescott 8-1	G Duffield	91

9-4 Sharp But Fair, 7-2 Full Traceability, 9-2 Lawful Find, 6-1 Bellaf, 8-1 Fonzy, 10-1 Petrine Gray, 12-1 others

2.45 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND CARLTON MINIOTT MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,361: 5f) (6)

1	(5)	6	BRAWLING SPRINGS 8 M W Easterby 9-0	Dale Gibson	84
2	(6)	34	DOUBLE ACTION 12 T Easterby 9-0	M Birch	▣
3	(3)	44	FREDRIK THE FIERCE 18 (BF) J Berry 9-0	K Darley	85
4	(4)		NOBLE DANCER M Hammond 9-0	K Fallon	–
5	(1)		RUM LAD J Quinn 9-0	N Connorton	–
6	(2)		VEERAPONG M W Easterby 8-9	G Parkin (5)	–

11-8 Double Action, 3-1 Fredrik The Fierce, 6-1 Brawling Springs, 7-1 Noble Dancer, 8-1 Rum Lad, 10-1 Veerapong

3.15 ROTHMANS ROYALS NORTH SOUTH CHALLENGE SERIES HANDICAP

(3-Y-O: £8,025: 1m) (14)

1	(9)	11-0	TRACEABILITY 13 (D,F,G) S Williams 9-7	K Darley	90
2	(11)	12	DOUBLE-O-SEVEN 100 (G) M Johnston 9-5	J Weaver	90
3	(4)	0-12	COOL FIRE 21 (D,G) S Woods 8-13	W Woods	89
4	(12)	00-0	SARIO 21 (C,G) C Smith 8-13	A Clark	92
5	(3)	-625	KAZIMIERA 11 W Elsey 8-13	P Fessey (5)	89
6	(2)	-103	TABRIZ 15 (D,G) J Bethell 8-12	R Hills	88
7	(13)	1-36	ROYAL CEILIDH 21 (F,G) Denys Smith 8-10	J Fortune	98
8	(7)	-041	SMARTER CHARTER 7 (F) Mrs J Ramsden 8-7	K Fallon	97
9	(8)	36-0	MR SPEAKER 21 C Wall 8-7	G Duffield	87
10	(5)	0000	TOO HASTY 7 (F) T Easterby 8-6	M Birch	93
11	(6)	000	MOCK TRIAL 23 Mrs J Ramsden 8-1	J F Egan	90
12	(14)	0-00	CUMBRIAN MAESTRO 12 (B) T Easterby 8-1	T Williams	87
13	(10)	54-0	GILLING DANCER 18 P Calver 8-1	N Carlisle	80
14	(1)	220-	MAGIC LAKE 210 E Alston 7-10	J Fanning	▣

4-1 Smarter Charter, 9-2 Double-O-Seven, 8-1 Traceability, Mr Speaker, Kazimiera, Mock Trial, 12-1 others.

3.45 DIBB LUPTON BROOMHEAD CUP HANDICAP

(£16,180: 6f) (21)

1	(16)	60-0	SHAMANIC 13 (D,F,G) R Hannon 4-10-0	K Darley	87
2	(20)	0-15	SEIGNEURIAL 14 (C,D,G) G Harwood 4-9-11	A Clark	97
3	(14)	00-3	PERRYSTON VIEW 14 (V,D,F,G,S) P Calver 4-9-9	M Birch	94
4	(3)	0-60	ROCK SYMPHONY 14 (D,F,G) W Haggas 6-9-7	R Hills	87
5	(2)	00-4	MASTER OF PASSION 22 (D,F,G,S) J Eustace 7-9-6	M Tebbutt	88
6	(15)	30-1	MY BEST VALENTINE 26 (F,G) J White 6-9-6	Dale Gibson	89
7	(4)	1221	TO THE ROOF 7 (F,G) P Harris 4-9-5	G Hind	▣
8	(8)	4550	CASTLEREA LAD 14 (D,F,G) R Hollinshead 7-9-3	D Griffiths (5)	93
9	(9)	660-	TEDBURROW 245 (D,F,G) Mrs A Naughton 4-9-3	A Culhane	87
10	(12)	1-14	DOUBLE SPLENDOUR 21 (D,BF,F,G,S) P Felgate 6-9-2	G Duffield	93
11	(13)	2130	BARREL OF HOPE 12 (B,D,F,G,S) J Eyre 4-9-2	R Lappin	94
12	(1)	0-41	SELHURSTPARK FLYER 8 (D,F,S) J Berry 5-9-1	P Roberts (5)	93
13	(7)	0000	FAME AGAIN 9 (G,S) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-0	W Woods	87
14	(11)	2512	BOLLIN HARRY 19 (D,F,G) T Easterby 4-8-13	J Carroll	98
15	(19)	0-00	BRECONGILL LAD 38 (B,C,D,F,G) Miss S Hall 4-8-10	N Connorton	88
16	(5)	4-04	THE SCYTHIAN 14 (D,F) Bob Jones 4-8-8	L Charnock	91
17	(6)	0001	BENZOE 1 (CD,F,S) Mrs J Ramsden 6-8-10	K Fallon	97
18	(10)	2441	PATSY GRIMES 16 (D,F,G,S) J Moore 6-8-2	J F Egan	94
19	(21)	0056	SAMSOLOM 7 (D,F,G) P Howling 8-8-0	J Quinn	91
20	(18)	2006	WHITE SORREL 29 (D,G) A Harrison 5-7-10	J Fanning	88
21	(17)	0000	RICH GLOW 14 (F) N Bycroft 5-7-10	N Kennedy	86

5-1 Perryston View, 6-1 Seigneurial, 7-1 Master Of Passion, 8-1 To The Roof, 10-1 My Best Valentine, 12-1 Shamanic, Patsy Grimes, 16-1 others

4.15 DISHFORTH CONDITIONS STAKES

(3-Y-O: £7,991: 1m) (6)

1	(5)	11-4	L'AMI LOUIS 44 (V,F) J Gosden 9-6	G Hind	81
2	(4)	21-4	TAMHID 28 (F) H Thomson Jones 9-6	R Hills	94
3	(1)	13-4	TRIA KEMATA 42 (BF,S) J Dunlop 9-3	J Weaver	91
4	(2)	24-1	HAMMERSTEIN 14 (G,F) M Stoute 9-1	K Darley	94
5	(6)	3-02	ANTHELIA 12 (F,G) G Wragg 8-12	W Woods	▣
6	(3)	430-	PERSIAN SECRET 210 (F,G) J Watts 8-10	G Duffield	96

7-4 Hammerstein, 7-2 L'Ami Louis, 4-1 Anthelia, 5-1 Tamhid, 6-1 others.

4.45 D.L.B. CORPORATE FINANCE HANDICAP

(3-Y-O: £5,631: 5f) (6)

1	(6)	22-0	LAAFEE 21 (BF,F) H Thomson Jones 9-7	R Hills	91
2	(1)	41-3	TADEO 11 (D,F,G) M Johnston 9-4	J Weaver	92
3	(4)	4-30	KUNUCU 12 (D,F,G) T Barron 8-12	K Darley	98
4	(3)	10-0	SWYNFORD DREAM 21 (D,F,G) J Bottomley 8-5	D R McCabe (3)	92
5	(5)	4-06	MISS BIGWIG 11 (D,F,S) J Berry 7-11	P Fessey (5)	▣
6	(2)	0-30	PLEASURE TIME 11 (B,D,F) C Smith 7-10	N Carlisle	86

9-4 Tadeo, 7-2 Miss Bigwig, 4-1 Kunucu, 9-2 Laafee, 7-1 others.

5.15 ELMIRE MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES

(3-Y-O: £3,665: 1m 4f) (6)

1	(3)	6	AMUSING ASIDE 21 J Watts 8-11	K Darley	72
2	(1)	0-4	HOT DOGGING 8 Mrs P Sly 8-11	A Culhane	–
3	(4)	2	PLACE DE L'OPERA 12 H Cecil 8-11	W Ryan	▣
4	(2)	2	SHIRLEY VENTURE 14 S Woods 8-11	W Woods	83
5	(6)	3	ST RITA 21 J Dunlop 8-11	G Duffield	79
6	(5)	2	SUNSET WELLS 21 D Loder 8-11	D R McCabe (3)	82

5-4 Place De L'Opera, 11-4 Shirley Venture, 5-1 Sunset Wells, 6-1 others.

مكتبة الاجيال

Sheer Danzig has conditions to suit

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

THE notion that "Sunday is Funday" at the races should be upheld at Newbury tomorrow – unless you happen to be a professional gambler. Lightning and Wolf, of *Gladiators* fame, line up alongside sky divers, horse-drawn carriages, a choir and concert band to vie for the attention of spectators and provide entertainment for the family. However, unless backers are cautious the beneficiaries of the main proceedings will be the bookmakers.

Three hideously tricky *handicaps*, which have attracted no fewer than 52 runners, are complemented by two maiden races for which the form book *would not provide Sherlock Holmes with* sufficient evidence to make a strong case for a bet.

The Starlight Express Limited Stakes, the first televised race at 3.00, is theoretically the easiest to solve, given that there are only seven runners, mostly with exposed form. However, the puzzle posed by the small field is considerable.

Christmas Kiss is the form choice, having improved considerably at Lingfield eight days ago when blinkers were applied for the first time. However, Richard Hannon's filly has run best on fast ground and could be found wanting here. It could pay to risk the lightly raced **Zygo**, who shaped promisingly on *his seasonal reappearance behind Regal Archive at Kempton six weeks ago.*

I was *surprised to read* recently that Robert Armstrong believes **Sheer Danzig** is best with some give in the ground. The useful handicapper won two good races at Newmarket and York last season when the going was on the fast side, so there is every chance the four-year-old could improve in the By Jeeves Rated Stakes Handicap (3.30) now that he has conditions to suit. He carries my nap.

Armstrong rates the son of Roi Danzig colt highly and, the colt having missed an intended engagement at York earlier this week, when the ground was unsuitably fast, he could prove a value bet. Others to consider are Grand *Du Lac, who showed improved form on his seasonal reappearance behind Tarawa at Ascot, and Censor. The latter looks leniently weighted given his proximity to Regal Archive* at Sandown 23 days ago.

John Dunlop has few peers when it comes to successfully stepping horses up in trip and Orchestra Stall improved when making a winning handicap debut at Ripon over *two miles. The Old Vic gelding is open to further improvement and should go close in* the Sunset Boulevard Handicap (4.00).

However, **Rocky Forum**, caught my eye on his seasonal reappearance at Sandown three weeks ago and is nominated a sporting next best. She stayed on most resolutely behind Darter and Gary Moore believes she will benefit considerably from that run.

TOMORROW'S RACING ON TELEVISION

RIPON TOMORROW

THUNDERER

2.15 Master Ofthe House. 2.45 Warrlin. 3.15 Field Of Vision. 3.45 Broadstairs Beauty. 4.15 Exactly. 4.45 Nanda.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.15 FAKIH (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

2.15 SUNDAY IS FUNDAY AT THE RACES SELLING STAKES (£2,983: 1m) (20 runners)

1	1004	ADALOALDO 25 (G) J Parkes 4-9-9	R Havlin (5) 15
2	-551	CICERONE 45 (V,D,F,G,S) J L Harris 6-9-9	P Fessey (5) 19
3	5-05	ARCATURA 22 (B) C James 4-9-4	W J O'Connor 12
4	-000	ASTERIX 13 (V,C,D,F,G) J Bradley 8-9-4	W Ryan 16
5	-060	BLOW DRY 9 (F,S) M Wane 6-9-4	J Carroll 1
6	030-	DARING RYDE 213 (D,G) J Smith 5-9-4	S D Williams 3
7	0-60	LEGAL BRIEF 9 (B) J Wainwright 4-9-4	T Ives 5
8	6303	MASTER OFTHE HOUSE 22 (D,BF,F,G,S) M Hammond 10-9-4	K Fallon 8
9	0061	PASH 10 (V,D,S) C Fairhurst 4-9-4	N Kennedy 13
10	-403	SANDMOOR DENIM 8 (D,F,G,S) S Bowring 9-9-4	C Teague (5) 2
11	-460	SHAREOFTHEACTION 11 (G) Mrs A Naughton 5-9-4	J Dennis (7) 11
12		WHATASHOWMAN 22J S Kettlewell 4-9-4	O Urbina 17
13	0030	HARRY'S TREAT 20 J Eyre 4-8-13	R Lappin 10
14	2060	HI ROCK 9 (F) J Norton 4-8-13	J Fanning 18
15	0304	SCOTTISH PARK 45 (D,F,G,S) J L Harris 7-8-13	P McCabe (3) 14
16	00-6	SIMAND 9 (D,F,G) G Moore 4-8-13	J Fortune 6
17	0-00	PERCY PARK 25 (B) M W Easterby 3-8-6	G Parkin (5) 4
18	00	DISPOL AGENDA 24 G Oldroyd 3-8-1	Dale Gibson 20
19		FORGET PARIS B Rothwell 3-8-1	M Fenton 7
20	0	FORMENTIERE 22 J Bradley 3-8-1	T Williams 9

5-1 Master Ofthe House, 6-1 Pash, 8-1 Sandmoor Denim, 10-1 Cicerone, Harry's Treat, 12-1 Arcatura, 14-1 others

2.45 DELOITTE & TOUCHE MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,713: 6f) (12)

1	3	FOR YOUR EYES ONLY 20 T Easterby 9-0	M Birch 5
2		HURGILL DANCER J Watts 9-0	N Connorton 7
3		JACK FLUSH B Rothwell 9-0	M Fenton 10
4		NINTH SYMPHONY P Haslam 9-0	J Fortune 11
5	4	RAINBOW RAIN 11 M Johnston 9-0	R Hills 9
6		RICH GROUND J Bethell 9-0	W J O'Connor 12
7		WARRLIN C Fairhurst 9-0	J Tate 2
8	5	DIZZY DANCER 10 A Bailey 8-9	J Carroll 3
9		FALLS O'MONESS K Burke 8-9	D R McCabe (3) 4
10		FLO'S CHOICE J A Harris 8-9	J O'Reilly 8
11	0	FOOLISH FLUTTER 39 G Oldroyd 8-9	F Norton 6
12		RIVONIA Mrs J Ramsden 8-9	K Fallon 1

5-2 Rainbow Rain, 7-2 Rivonia, 5-1 For Your Eyes Only, 8-1 Ninth Symphony, Hurgill Dancer, 14-1 Falls O'Moness, Rich Ground, 16-1 others.

POINT-TO-POINT FIXTURES: TODAY: Dulverton West, Bratton Down, 10m N of Sth Molton (first race, 2.00); Ystrad, Bassaleg, off J28 M4 (4.00). TOMORROW: Bicester With Whaddon Chase, Mollington, 5m N of Banbury (2.30); Border, Corbridge, 5m N of town (2.00); Wheatland, Wolverhampton, at Dunstall Park (2.00).

3.15 MIDDLEHAM TRAINERS ASSOCIATION HANDICAP (£4,377: 1m 2f) (16)

1	4520	CELESTIAL CHOIR 15 (C,D,F,G,S) J Eyre 6-10-0	R Lappin 7
2	-213	HAZARD A GUESS 37 (D,F,G,S) D Nicholls 6-9-13	Alex Greaves 8
3	4-00	IL TRASTEVERE 13 (S) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-12	O Urbina 10
4	43-5	SOVEREIGN PAGE 16 (CD,F,G) B Hanbury 7-9-8	W Ryan 3
5	00-0	MISTER RM 19 (G) R Guest 4-9-8	M Fenton 9
6	504-	DEANO'S BEENO 243 (D,F) M Johnston 4-9-6	T Williams 15
7	/1-5	FAKIH 18 (F) A Stewart 4-9-7	R Hills 2
8	450	LE KHOUMF 13 J Bradley 5-9-4	L Charnock 4
9	1-02	ANOTHER TIME 20 (D,F,G) S Woods 4-9-3	– 16
10	5410	KOMREYEV DANCER 12 (D,F,G) A Bailey 4-9-3	J Carroll 6
11	030-	CURRENT SPEECH 23J (B,S) T Easterby 5-9-2	R Havlin (5) 11
12	0513	FIELD OF VISION 10 (F,G,S) Mrs A Swinbank 6-9-2	J Fortune 14
13	31-3	SARMATIAN 16 (F) M Hammond 5-8-11	K Fallon 12
14	00-0	HAIDO'HART 12 B Rothwell 4-8-1	J Fanning 13
15	000-	AUGUSTAN 170 (D,F) S Gollings 5-8-0	D McCabe (3) 5
16	0-40	ANTARTICTERN 15J (D,F,G) G Oldroyd 6-7-10	R Ffrench (7) 1

7-2 Fakih, 5-1 Hazard A Guess, 7-1 Sovereign Page, 8-1 Deano's Beeno, 10-1 Sarmatian, Another Time, 12-1 others.

3.45 RIPON SUNDAY SPRINT CHALLENGE HANDICAP (£6,873: 5f) (10)

1	0040	PORTEND 20 (B,D,G,S) S Bowring 4-9-10	C Teague (5) 3
2	4-66	CELANDINE 85 (F) J Eyre 3-9-9	D Wright (3) 1
3	1-20	ROYAL DOME 4 (D,F,G) M Wane 4-9-7	J Carroll 9
4	33-0	PALO BLANCO 15 (D,F,G) T Barron 5-9-5	J Fortune 8
5	0080	INSIDER TRADER 4 (D,F,G) Mrs J Ramsden 5-9-5	K Fallon 4
6	3014	SO INTREPID 8 (D,BF,F,G,S) J Bradley 6-9-5	W Ryan 6
7	01-5	BROADSTAIRS BEAUTY 54 (B,CD,BF,F,G,S) F Howling 6-9-4	S D Williams 10
8	-014	STUFFED 15 (D,F) M W Easterby 4-8-11	G Parkin (5) 2
9	3211	AWASHA 15 (D,F,G) Miss G Kelleway 4-8-11	O Urbina 7
10	0000	IMP EXPRESS 13 (D,F,G) G Moore 3-7-10	Dale Gibson 5

4-1 Royal Dome, 5-1 So Intrepid, Insider Trader, Awasha, 6-1 Stuffed, 8-1 others.

4.15 RACING NORTH HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £4,241: 1m 4f 60yd) (8)

1	-054	SAMIM 31 (B,G) J Dunlop 9-7	R Hills 7
2	03-6	MENTAL PRESSURE 15 Mrs M Reveley 9-6	A Culhane 1
3	0625	EXACTLY 13 J Eyre 8-11	T Williams 2
4	03-0	ATIENZA 16 S Williams 8-9	J Tate 5
5	-120	JACKSON PARK 23 (D,S) T Easterby 8-9	M Birch 8
6	30-4	ANCHOR VENTURE 30 S Woods 8-8	W Ryan 4
7	3515	LUCKY BEA 8 (G) M W Easterby 8-0	Dale Gibson 3
8	-505	MANOY 11 J Hetherton 7-13	N Kennedy 6

9-4 Mental Pressure, 7-2 Samim, 5-1 Exactly, 6-1 Jackson Park, 8-1 others

4.45 STIRRING SMILES BY TOYOTA MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £4,033: 1m 1f) (6)

1	0-3	BEACONTREE 13 M Johnston 9-0	T Williams 1
2	00	MAWARED 13 J Dunlop 9-0	R Hills 6
3		CABARET P Chapple-Hyam 8-9	R Havlin (5) 4
4	0	CELIA'S RAINBOW 31 M Bielby 8-9	J Fortune 2
5	00	INDIPHAR 12 F Lee 8-9	M Fenton 3
6	6	NANDA 13 D Loder 8-9	D R McCabe (3) 5

5-4 Cabaret, 4-1 Nanda, Beacontree, 6-1 Mawared, 14-1 Indiphar, Celia's Rainbow

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: TOMORROW: Newbury: 3.30 Autumn Affair. 4.00 Nijmegen. Ripon: 2.15 Arcatura, Cicerone, Percy Park. 3.15 Current Speech. 3.45 Portend

NEWBURY TOMORROW

THUNDERER

2.00 Embankment
2.30 Silver Widget
3.00 Mister Fire Eyes
3.30 Censor
4.00 EN VACANCES (nap)
4.30 Victorian Style

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.00 CHRISTMAS KISS.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.00 Zygo. 4.30 Cerdan.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 6F-1M STR, HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.00 MAIL ON SUNDAY MILE HANDICAP (Qualifier: £7,360: 1m str) (22 runners)

101	(22)	050-006	AMRAK AJEEB 13 (F,G) (A Merza) B Hanbury 4-10-0	J Reid	94
102	(17)	04130-0	RON'S SECRET 23 (D,F,S) (R Davey) J Payne 4-9-11	B Thomson	97
103	(11)	530152	STAR TALENT 15 (F,G,S) (Miss J Crowley) Miss G Kelleway 5-9-11	R Cochrane	(99)
104	(13)	013-340	SHINEROLLA 29 (D,F,G) (Mrs A Green) C Parker 4-9-10	W Woods	88
105	(1)	1311-00	HAND CRAFT 10 (D,F,G) (Mrs M Haggas) W Haggas 4-9-10	S Sanders	84
106	(18)	53060-1	TREGARON 18 (D,F) (D Jones) R Akehurst 5-9-9	T Quinn	93
107	(15)	10120-0	MO-ADDAB 18 (D,F,G,S) (S Hammond) A Stewart 6-9-9	D Harrison	90
108	(12)	0026-00	EMBANKMENT 13 (D,F,S) (Lady Tennant) R Hannon 6-9-9	Dane O'Neill (3)	93
109	(11)	10002-0	ZAJKO 13 (CD,F) (Sir Roger G Gibbs) Lady Herries 6-9-8	Paul Eddery	89
110	(8)	622-	MOSCOW MIST 330 (Merthyr Motor Auctions) Lady Herries 5-9-4	T Sprake	87
111	(2)	5062-00	AEROKING 20 (G) (The PBT Group) G Harwood 5-9-4	A Clark	96
112	(20)	623-5	DIMINUTIVE 33 (Gainsbury Partnership) J Hills 3-9-2	M Henry (5)	83
113	(19)	10302-0	ADMIRALS FLAME 18 (D,F,S) (Hintlesham Racing) C Wall 5-9-2	G Duffield	87
114	(9)	0000-00	SAIFAN 18 (B,D,F,G) (Mrs L Brook) D Morris 7-9-1	C Hodgson	88
115	(16)	26200-0	DEEVEE 18 (CD,F,G,S) (O Turner) C Benstead 7-9-0	P Robinson	86
116	(14)	4101-01	LILLI CLAIRE 17 (D,F,G) (C Leslie) A Foster 3-9-0	B Doyle	95
117	(6)	501424-	BROUGHTONS TURMOIL 225 (D,F,G) (Broughton Ltd) W Musson 7-8-8	R Price	87
118	(10)	1200-30	DUELLO 26 (D,S) (H Promotions Ltd) M Blanshard 5-8-5	J Quinn	91
119	(4)	33/500	TALATHATH 17 (V) (Mrs C Rawson) C Dwyer 4-8-5	W Carson	88
120	(3)	0-60	BOSTON ROCK 24 (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 4-8-3	G Hind	90
121	(7)	004-003	DESERT CALM 17 (B,D,F,G,S) (Mrs N Dutfield) Mrs P Dutfield 7-7-12	G Bardwell	90
122	(5)	006-060	NOBLE NEPTUNE 30 (D,F) (Mrs R Brown) W Musson 4-7-12	A Mackay	88

BETTING: 5-1 Tregaron, 8-1 Lilli Claire, Moscow Mist, 10-1 Zajko, 12-1 Amrak Ajeeb, Star Talent, 14-1 Broughtons Turmoil, Mo-Addab, Shinerolla, 16-1 others.

1995: ZAJKO 5-9-1 R Cochrane (11-2 fav) Lady Herries 25 ran

FORM FOCUS

AMRAK AJEEB 4l 6th to Desert Green in handicap at Kempton (1m, good to firm) with EMBANKMENT (3lb better off) 1½l 9th and ZAJKO (1lb better off) 2½l 12th. STAR TALENT 2½l 2nd to I'm Your Lady in handicap at Thirsk (7f, good to firm). TREGARON beat Samba Sharply 3½l in 31-runner handicap at Ascot (1m, good to firm) with MO-ADDAB (11lb better off) 8½l 11th, SAIFAN (13lb better off) and ADMIRALS FLAME (11l better off) 10l dead-heat 20th and DEEVEE (11lb better off) 8l 27th. MOSCOW MIST 3l 2nd of 6 to Behaviour in maiden at Redcar (1m, firm). LILLI CLAIRE beat Honorable Estate 3½l in 12-runner handicap at Salisbury (1m, good to firm). BROUGHTONS TURMOIL 3½l 4th of 23 to Comanche Companion in handicap at York (7f, good) with ZAJKO (2lb worse off) 3½l 8th.
Selection: TREGARON

2.30 CATS MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O colts and geldings: £5,485: 6f 8yd) (14 runners)

201	(7)		BOLD ORIENTAL (M Tabor) N Callaghan 8-11	R Cochrane	–
202	(5)		BOLD SPRING (Mrs D Cock) R Hannon 8-11	R Perham	–
203	(12)		COMPTON PLACE (Duke of Devonshire) J Toller 8-11	S Sanders	–
204	(9)		DOUBLE-J (D Armitage) K McAuliffe 8-11	J Stack (3)	–
205	(2)		MERCILESS COP (M Lancanchi) B Meehan 8-11	M Tebbutt	–
206	(11)		MYRMIDON (I Pilkington) J Dunlop 8-11	W Carson	–
207	(9)	3	POWDER RIVER 14 (Lord Carnarvon) R Hannon 8-11	Dane O'Neill (3)	(99)
208	(10)		PRAIRIE MINSTREL (R Harris) R Dickin 8-11	P Robinson	–
209	(13)		PREMIER BAY (Prime Cartel) P Harris 8-11	G Hind	–
210	(14)	6	PUZZLEMENT 15 (Mrs C Brittain) C Brittain 8-11	B Doyle	93
211	(3)		SILVER WIDGET (E & W Robins) R Charlton 8-11	J Reid	–
212	(4)	0	SPEEDFIT 20 (J Guest) G Margarson 8-11	P Bloomfield	79
213	(1)		STURGEON (M Arbib) P Cole 8-11	T Quinn	–
214	(6)	5	SUN O'TIROL 19 (Mrs A Barwick) M Channon 8-11	R Hughes	–

BETTING: 3-1 Silver Widget, 5-1 Powder River, Sturgeon, 6-1 Bold Spring, 8-1 Myrmidon, 10-1 others

1995: RUSSIAN REVIVAL 8-11 B Thomson (6-5 fav) P Chapple-Hyam 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

MYRMIDON (cost 23,000gns, foaled Feb 25) half-brother to 1m juvenile winner Duty Time; dam 6f juvenile winner. POWDER RIVER 2½l and head 3rd of 5 to Kingsinger in a conditions race at Salisbury (5f, good). PUZZLEMENT 8½l 6th of 7 to Abou Zouz in a maiden at Newmarket (5f, good to firm). SILVER WIDGET (foaled Apr 3) half-brother to winners in North America; dam winner in North America. STURGEON (cost 175,000gns, foaled Feb 23) half-brother to high-class juvenile Pharaoh's Delight, dam juvenile 5f winner.
No selection

3.00 STARLIGHT EXPRESS LIMITED STAKES (£4,743: 7f 64yd rnd) (7 runners)

BBC2

301	(5)	21-2002	MISTER FIRE EYES 8 (B,D,F,G,S) (C Olley) C Brittain 4-9-8	B Doyle	81
302	(1)	0214-00	BE WARNED 18 (B,D,F,G) (Mildcourts) N Callaghan 5-9-5	Pat Eddery	85
303	(4)	03610-0	LAW COMMISSION 8 (D,F) (R Tooth) D Elsworth 6-9-5	R Cochrane	80
304	(3)	3043-31	ZELDA ZONK 6 (D,F) (Mrs C Panting) B Meehan 4-9-5	R Hughes	83
305	(7)	6/4-3	ZYGO 41 (Lord Howard de Walden) W Jarvis 4-9-5	T Quinn	90
306	(6)	160-003	CHRISTMAS KISS 8 (B,F) (P Pritchard) R Hannon 4-9-2	Dane O'Neill (3)	(99)
307	(2)	510-0	XENOPHON OF CUNAXA 31 (F) (Abigail Ltd) M Fetherston-Godley 3-8-8	D Harrison	91

BETTING: 9-4 Zygo, 7-2 Zelda Zonk, 9-2 Mister Fire Eyes, 6-1 Christmas Kiss, 8-1 Be Warned, 10-1 others.

1995: INZAR 3-9-2 T Quinn (13-8) P Cole 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

MISTER FIRE EYES 1½l 2nd of 10 to Neuwest in a handicap at Lingfield (7f, good to firm). LAW COMMISSION best effort beat Double Bounce neck in a 12-runner handicap at Salisbury (6f, firm). ZELDA ZONK beat Farnwings 3½l in handicap at Redcar (7f, good to firm). ZYGO 3l 3rd of 17 to Regal Archive in maiden at Kempton (7f, good). CHRISTMAS KISS 3l 3rd of 6 to Isla Del Rey in a listed race at Lingfield (7f, good to firm). XENOPHON OF CUNAXA 5½l 9th of 29 to No Animosity in conditions race at the Curragh (6f, good).
Selection: ZYGO

3.30 BY JEEVES RATED HANDICAP (£9,530: 1m 1f) (15 runners)

BBC2

401	(11)	1/00341-	DARYABAD 204 (G) (C & M Racing Pres) T Naughton 4-9-9	B Thomson	–
402	(1)	1160-00	HAGWAH 14 (F) (A Ali) B Hanbury 4-9-8	J Stack (3)	95
403	(10)	1303-00	HIGH EXPRESS 29 (C,G) (D Allport) I Balding 4-9-6	Paul Eddery	93
404	(15)	002201-	NIGHT CITY 215 (S) (Dexam International Ltd) Lady Herries 5-9-5	D O'Shea	93
405	(2)	6026-00	AUTUMN AFFAIR 23 (B,S) (R Richards) C Brittain 4-9-5	B Doyle	95
406	(8)	31100-	KADAMANN 134J (F,G) (Sir Eric Parker) R Akehurst 4-9-4	S Sanders	98
407	(7)	21-5	GRAND DU LAC 18 (G) (Mrs V Kraft Payson) D Loder 4-9-3	Pat Eddery	(99)
408	(6)	10343-0	BLUE ZULU 13 (F) (T & J Vestey) J Fanshawe 4-8-13	D Harrison	93
409	(5)	14153-6	DONNA VIOLA 23 (F,S) (K Scott) C Wall 4-8-11	J Reid	91
410	(13)	12510-0	SHEER DANZIG 41 (BF,G) (R Arculli) R Armstrong 4-8-11	W Woods	96
411	(4)	16012-	LA VOLTA 198 (F) (Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber) J Fitzgerald 3-8-10	R Cochrane	94
412	(12)	0063-14	STAR MANAGER 13 (C,G,S) (M Arbib) P Cole 6-8-9	T Quinn	98
413	(14)	33305-3	MAJOR CHANGE 15 (F) (Mrs C Powell) R Hannon 4-8-9	Dane O'Neill (3)	93
414	(9)	01-5	CENSOR 23 (F) (Lord Howard de Walden) H Cecil 3-7-12	A McGlone	91
415	(3)	43200-0	VOLA VIA 36 (F) (G Smart) I Balding 3-7-10	Martin Dwyer (5)	96

BETTING: 9-2 Kadamann, 6-1 Night City, 7-1 Star Manager, 8-1 Major Change, 10-1 Donna Viola, Grand Du Lac, 12-1 others.

1995: HOLTYE 3-8-0 A McGlone (Evens fav) H Cecil 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

DARYABAD beat Skipo 2l in 10-runner handicap at Leopardstown (1m, good). NIGHT CITY beat Decorated Hero head in a 6-runner conditions race at Chepstow (1m, soft) final start last year. KADAMANN best effort beat Just Little 1½l in an 11-runner conditions race at The Curragh (1m 3f, good to firm). GRAND DU LAC 2½l 5th of 8 to Tarawa in a conditions race at Ascot (1m, good to firm). SHEER DANZIG best effort beat Sadler's Walk 4l in a 13-runner handicap at York (1m 2f 85yd, good). STAR MANAGER 2½l 4th of 13 to Desert Green in a handicap at Kempton (1m, good to firm) with BLUE ZULU (1lb better off) 2½l 8th. CENSOR beat Tasdik 1½l in a 10-runner maiden at Nottingham (1m, good to firm) final start last year.
Selection: STAR MANAGER

4.00 SUNSET BOULEVARD HANDICAP (£7,490: 2m) (19 runners)

BBC2

501	(8)	514123/	MUSE 29J (C,F,S) (White Horse Racing Ltd) D Elsworth 9-10-0	A Procter	–
502	(15)	6000-60	SEASONAL SPLENDOUR 11 (F) (D Johnson) M Pipe 6-9-11	G Carter	96
503	(1)	620/210	KADASTROF 11 (CD,G,S) (A Paton) R Dickin 6-9-10	Dane O'Neill (3)	94
504	(4)	0000-10	SHADIRWAN 30 (D,F,G,S) (C Batt) R Akehurst 5-9-9	T Ashley (7)	98
505	(13)	123-530	THALJANAH 11 (F,G) (W Clinford) D Williams 4-9-6	D Harrison	98
506	(19)	0/3-21	ORCHESTRA STALL 22 (D,G) (D Sieff) J Dunlop 4-9-6	W Carson	94
507	(7)	112402-	NANTON POINT 218 (D,F,G) (L Lazarus) Lady Herries 4-9-5	J Quinn	94
508	(14)	2-50610	TOY PRINCESS 23 (F,G) (C Brittain) C Brittain 4-9-0	B Doyle	95
509	(16)	3101-00	EN VACANCES 36 (CD,S) (Lambourn Valley Racing) A Foster 4-8-11	T Sprake	(99)
510	(9)	43514-1	WANNAPLANTATREE 43 (D,F,G) (A Tombs) N Babbage 5-8-8	A Clark	93
511	(11)	0-00622	LALINDI 8 (B,D,F,G,S) (White Horse Racing Ltd) D Elsworth 5-8-8	T Quinn	96
512	(17)	10000-4	KILCORAN BAY 14 (B,G) (N Harris) I Balding 4-8-7	Paul Eddery	93
513	(10)	0/0/2/4	NIJMEGEN 25J (B,S) (W Hancock) J Fitzgerald 8-8-7	R Cochrane	–
514	(5)	001/24	KAMIKAZE 20 (S) (Major B Gatensbury) J White 6-8-6	G Duffield	93
515	(6)	330126-	GREYCOAT BOY 213 (B,F) (N Rimington) B Meehan 4-8-4	M Tebbutt	95
516	(18)	41821-2	ROCKY FORUM 23 (D,G,S) (The Forum Ltd) G L Moore 4-7-13	S Sanders	94
517	(12)	350533	STALLED 13 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs P Walwyn) P Walwyn 6-7-10	Martin Dwyer (5)	95
518	(3)	465/054-	ALLMOSA 347 (D,F,G) (The Durdans Four (II) Two) T Naughton 7-7-10	N Adams	85
519	(2)	0020-65	GRANBY BELL 14 (G) (H Walton) P Hayward 5-7-10	M Henry (5)	85

Long handicap: Stalled 7-8, Allmosa 7-4, Granby Bell 7-4.

BETTING: 3-1 Orchestra Stall, 5-1 Shadirwan, 7-1 Nanton Point, 8-1 Wannaplantatree, 10-1 Kadastrof, 12-1 Rocky Forum, Kilcoran Bay, 14-1 others.

1995: SMUGGLING 4-8-13 T Quinn (2-1 fav) R Akehurst 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

KADASTROF beat KAMIKAZE (7lb better off) 6l in an 8-runner handicap over course and distance (good to soft) penultimate start with SHADIRWAN (7lb better off) tailed off last. SHADIRWAN beat Hoyan 5l in a 20-runner handicap at Doncaster (2m 2f, good to soft) penultimate start with LALINDI (13lb better off) 29l 7th and EN VACANCES (7lb better off) 11l 9th. ORCHESTRA STALL beat Great Easeby neck in a 9-runner handicap at Ripon (2m, good). TOY PRINCESS beat Hattaafeh ¾l in a 16-runner handicap at Folkestone (1m 7f 92yd, good to firm) penultimate start with STALLED (8lb better off) 5l 3rd. WANNAPLANTATREE beat Witney-de-Bergerac 1½l in an 18-runner handicap at Kempton (2m, good) with STALLED (6lb better off) 4½l 5th, SEASONAL SPLENDOUR (8lb better off) 1½l 6th and LALINDI (8lb better off) 30l 15th. LALINDI 6l 2nd of 14 to Coleridge in a handicap at Bath (2m 1f, good to firm). ROCKY FORUM 5l 2nd of 13 to Darter in a handicap at Sandown (2m 78yd, good) with TOY PRINCESS (2lb better off) 10l 7th. STALLED 6½l 3rd of 8 to Purple Splash in a handicap at Haydock (1m 6f, good to soft)
Selection: ORCHESTRA STALL

4.30 PHANTOM MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £5,407: 7f 64yd) (10 runners)

601	(6)	54	A CHEF TOO FAR 9 (M Greenway) R Rowe 9-0	T Quinn	93
602	(3)	3-	CERDAN 205 (M Tabor) M Stoute 9-0	J Reid	88
603	(5)		DUEL AT DAWN (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 9-0	G Hind	–
604	(9)	653	LUCKY ARCHER 14 (W Gredley) C Brittain 9-0	B Doyle	(99)
605	(8)		POLAR PROSPECT (Elwey Racing Pnrs) B Hanbury 9-0	J Stack (3)	–
606	(2)	5-4	RAISE A PRINCE 29 (G Tong) R Armstrong 9-0	W Woods	92
607	(4)	00	SHOULDBEGREY 33 (B Levy) W Muir 9-0	D Harrison	62
608	(10)	0-	BANDIT GIRL 226 (J Smith) I Balding 8-9	R Cochrane	–
609	(1)		SHADOW CASTING (K Abdulla) B Hills 8-9	B Thomson	–
610	(7)		VICTORIAN STYLE (K Abdulla) R Charlton 8-9	Pat Eddery	–

BETTING: 3-1 Victorian Style, 7-2 Duel At Dawn, 9-2 Cerdan, 5-1 Lucky Archer, 7-1 Raise A Prince, 10-1 others.

1995: GREAT INQUEST 8-9 R Cochrane (14-1) J Gosden 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

A CHEF TOO FAR 4½l 4th of 10 to Russian Music in a maiden at Lingfield (7f, good to firm). CERDAN ½l and head 3rd of 8 to Farhana in a maiden at Newmarket (6f, good to firm). LUCKY ARCHER 4½l 3rd of 6 to Projection at Newmarket (7f, good to firm). RAISE A PRINCE 10l 4th of 14 to Nash House in a maiden here (1m, good to soft) with LUCKY ARCHER 5l 5th. SHOULDBEGREY 15l 10th of 12 to Sandabar in a maiden at Folkestone (7f, good to firm). BANDIT GIRL 18l 10th of 11 to Midnight Blue in a maiden at Ascot (6f, good to soft). VICTORIAN STYLE: Half-sister by Nashwan to middle-distance/staying winner Sea Victor; dam, from family of Try My Best and El Gran Senor, 5f winner in France
Selection: CERDAN

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Miss G Kelleway	4	15	26.7	J Reid	44	248	17.7
J Gosden	31	120	25.8	Pat Eddery	42	237	17.7
R Charlton	19	104	18.3	W Carson	32	207	15.5
H Cecil	15	84	17.9	D Harrison	14	110	12.7
B Hanbury	8	46	17.4	R Cochrane	17	145	11.7
Lady Herries	6	37	16.2	Only qualifiers			

HAMILTON PARK

THUNDERER

6.20 Best Kept Secret. 6.50 Enchanting Eve. 7.20 Guards Brigade. 7.50 Ride Sally Ride. 8.20 Steadfast Elite. 8.50 Candle Smile.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS
DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

6.20 PATRICK & KATHLEEN McCLOSKEY APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£2,498: 5f 4yd) (14 runners)

1	0000	ULTRA BEET 14 (B,C,D,F,G) P Haslam 4-9-10	Carol Davison (6) 13
2	0102	DIET 8 (V,CD,F,G,S) Miss L Perratt 10-9-2	D Sweeney 12
3	3522	BEST KEPT SECRET 9 (B,CD,F,G,S) P Evans 5-8-11	Hayley Williams (6) 10
4	0-11	HENRY THE HAWK 9 (V,CD,S) M Dods 5-8-10	R Ffrench (3) 11
5	0633	FINISTERRE 8 J J O'Neill 3-8-9	F M Berry (3) 8
6	-000	NATURAL KEY 14 (D,F) D Haydn Jones 3-8-8	Anthony Bond (6) 14
7	-004	SUEDORO 9 (C,F) R McKellar 6-8-3	D McGaffin (8) 9
8	000-	RED FIVE 187 J Berry 5-8-3	Joanne Webster (6) 7
9	0060	LEADING PRINCESS 9 (B,C,D,F,G) Miss L Perratt 5-8-3	J Bramhill (3) 3
10	00-5	KENESHA 44 D Nolan 6-8-1	J Fowle (3) 5
11	2065	CHEEKY CHAPPY 9 (B,D,F,G) D Chapman 5-7-11	K Sked (3) 6
12	6-46	MILLEMAY 10 P Monteith 6-7-11	R Studholme (3) 4
13	0-00	ANOTHER NIGHTMARE 10 (CD,S) T Dyer 4-7-10	R Mullen (3) 2
14	3-02	SECONDS AWAY 10 (B) J Goldie 5-7-10	J McAuley (5) 1

4-1 Henry The Hawk, 5-1 Best Kept Secret, 6-1 Finisterre, 7-1 Seconds Away, 8-1 Diet, 10-1 Suedoro, 12-1 others.

6.50 ISLE OF ARRAN CLAIMING STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,521: 6f 5yd) (6)

1	3624	HELLO DOLLY 16 K Burke 8-11	J F Egan 6
2	0	SMOKEY FROM CAPLAW 14 J J O'Neill 8-10	K Fallon 1
3	160	ENCHANTING EVE 10 (G) C Allan 8-9	L Newton (5) 5
4	4213	CONTRAVENE 11 (F) J Berry 8-7	J Carroll 3
5	332	EKATERINI PARITSI 9 (BF) W G M Turner 8-5	C Adamson (5) 4
6	65	FLOOD'S FLYER 15 N Tinkler 8-3	L Charnock 2

7-4 Ekaterini Paritsi, 7-2 Contravene, 4-1 Enchanting Eve, Hello Dolly, 10-1 Flood's Flyer, 12-1 Smokey From Caplaw.

7.20 ARIZONA HANDICAP (£3,252: 1m 5f 9yd) (7)

SKY

1	-000	SEGALA 16 (C,F,G,S) J J O'Neill 5-10-0	K Fallon 3
2	00-0	MAGIC TIMES 8 (G) M Johnston 5-8-11	J Weaver 5
3	6516	LORD ADVOCATE 8 (B,CD,F,G,S) D Nolan 8-8-5	V Halliday 1
4	500-	VICTOR LASZLO 184 R Allan 4-7-13	J Fanning 4
5	56-0	GUARDS BRIGADE 10 (G) J Hetherton 5-7-11	N Kennedy 2
6	0/0-	BRUZ 235J P Monteith 5-7-10	L Charnock 7
7	00/0	GREYSTYLE 7 (V) M Brittain 6-7-10	D Wright (3) 6

9-4 Lord Advocate, 3-1 Segala, 4-1 Magic Times, 5-1 Guards Brigade, 10-1 Victor Laszlo, Bruz, 14-1 Greystyle.

7.50 TATTERSALLS MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,996: 5f 4yd) (11)

SKY

1	4	RIDE SALLY RIDE 18 J Berry 8-11	J Carroll 11
2	3	ROCKAROUNDTHECLOCK 12 P Evans 8-10	J Fortune 9
3		THE ORRAMAN J J O'Neill 8-8	K Fallon 1
4	45	GRATE TIMES 14 E Weymes 8-6	R Lappin 8
5	0	NOMORE MR NICEGUY 10 E Alston 8-5	S D Williams 8
6		REAL FIRE M Meagher 8-4	J F Egan 5
7		BALLYDINERO J Wilson 8-3	D McKeown 10
8	225	RED GARTER 13 K McAuliffe 8-3	L Newton (5) 3
9	6	JINGOIST 16 M Johnston 8-0	T Williams 4
10	32	TRIBAL MISCHIEF 16 D Moffatt 7-13	Darren Moffatt (3) 7
11		GINNY WOSSERNAME W G M Turner 7-12	C Adamson (5) 2

4-1 Red Garter, Tribal Mischief, 5-1 Rockaroundtheclock, 6-1 Ride Sally Ride, 8-1 Jingoist, Grate Times, 10-1 others

8.20 ISLE OF BUTE SELLING HANDICAP (£2,514: 1m 3f 16yd) (17)

SKY

1	0/0-	RIVA'S BOOK 458 (C,F,S) M Meagher 5-10-0	R Studholme (7) 1
2	-515	WALWORTH LADY 10 (CD,F,G) M Dods 5-10-0	J Carroll 8
3	/00	FIREFIGHTER 18 (G,S) B Baugh 7-9-11	Iona Wands (7) 10
4	13/	MCGILLYCUDDY REEKS 376J (F) N Tinkler 5-9-10	L Charnock 14
5	2620	SNAKE PLISSKEN 10 D Haydn Jones 5-9-10	P P Murphy (3) 3
6	3500	HAWWAM 16 (F,G,S) E Alston 10-9-9	S D Williams 4
7	00-0	RECLUSE 37 (B,F) Miss L Perratt 5-9-7	J Fanning 2
8	0-24	STEADFAST ELITE 24J (C,S) J J O'Neill 5-9-3	J Fortune 13
9	0-61	PEARL ANNIVERSARY 15 (G) M Johnston 3-9-3	J Weaver 5
10	6260	NO SUBMISSION 19 (D,G,S) D Chapman 10-9-2	A Culhane 9
11	20-0	VINTAGE TAITTINGER 23J (G) T Dyer 4-8-13	R [illegible] (7) 17
12	3502	RATTLE 10 (B) J J O'Neill 3-8-13	K Fallon 6
13	00-4	TRUMPED 10 P Monteith 4-8-12	Darren Moffatt (3) 16
14	60-6	PORTITE SOPHIE 38 M Brittain 5-8-11	N Connorton 15
15	-030	I'M A NUT MAN 11 C Smith 5-8-10	D McKeown 11
16	0-53	PRINCESS PAMGADDY 9 (G) C Allen 3-8-7	C [illegible] 7
17	050-	KALKO 89J (F) J Goldie 7-8-0	T Williams 12

9-4 Pearl Anniversary, 6-1 Snake Plissken, 8-1 Rattle, 10-1 Steadfast Elite, 12-1 I'm A Nut Man, Hawwam, Vintage Taittinger, 16-1 others.

8.50 ARIZONA MAIDEN STAKES (£3,566: 1m 4f 17yd) (6)

SKY

1	3-52	CANDLE SMILE 12 M Stoute 4-9-10	D McKeown 1
2	00-	CALCANDO 220 E Weymes 4-9-5	J Fortune 6
3	65-	KUWAM 325 B Hanbury 3-8-7	L Newton (5) 4
4	4-6	LORD CORNELIOUS 9 D Nolan 3-8-7	V Halliday 2
5		MATTAWAN M Johnston 3-8-7	J Weaver 3
6	00	RAISE A RIPPLE 14 Mrs D Thomson 3-8-7	R Lappin 5

Evens Candle Smile, 11-4 Mattawan, 4-1 Kuwam, 12-1 Calcando, Lord Cornelious, 50-1 Raise A Ripple.

FAKENHAM

THUNDERER

6.10 Pair Of Jacks. 6.40 Sheer Jest. 7.10 Drumstick. 7.40 Stac-Pollaidh. 8.10 Bitter Aloe. 8.40 Bon Voyage.

GOING: GOOD SIS

6.10 BROUGHTON THERMAL SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,766: 2m) (12 runners)

1	6305	SCRIPT 17 (B,D,F) J Jenkins 5-11-10	D Fortt (3)
2	6056	MARSH'S LAW 15 (V,D,F,G,S) O Brennan 9-11-9	M Brennan
3	0346	COLWAY PRINCE 3 (D,F,G,S) A Jones 8-11-8	S Curran
4	-300	HIGHLY REPUTABLE 18 (F,G) G Bowery 6-11-7	J Supple (3)
5	6311	PAIR OF JACKS 10 (CD,F,G) T Naughton 6-11-6	A P McCoy
6	P044	BINLABOON 3 (B,F) K Wingrove 5-11-4	J Ryan
7	6-00	BLURRED IMAGE 23 J Poulton 5-11-2	D O'Sullivan
8	0010	MASON 8 (BF,G) S Mellor 4-11-2	Chris Webb (5)
9	/0-5	TRENDY AUCTIONEER 12 (V,D,F,G) Mrs L Jewell 8-11-2	J Railton
10	-644	JOLI'S GREAT 12 (CD,G) M Ryan 8-10-13	J R Kavanagh
11	0P06	GIGFY 10 (B,F) B Llewellyn 4-10-8	Mr J L Llewellyn
12	0620	LOFTY DEED 8 (B,D,S) W Musson 6-10-7	K Gaule (3)

9-4 Pair Of Jacks, 5-1 Highly Reputable, 8-1 Marsh's Law, Colway Prince, Lofty Deed, Joli's Great, 10-1 others.

6.40 HOOD, VORES AND ALLWOOD HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £2,664: 3m 110yd) (14)

1	1F22	SHEER JEST 17 (C,D,BF,F,G,S) W Warner 11-12-8	A Hill (3)
2	P2PP	BLUE DANUBE 17 (F,S) S Allen 12-11-12	J Trice-Rolph (5)
3	5321	CHERRY CHAP 21P (F,G) J Imbott 11-11-12	S Cowell (7)
4	3CU1	DROMIN LEADER 28P (CD,G,S) J Turner 11-11-12	A Sansome (5)
5	54P5	EASY OVER 13P (B,F,G,S) B Dowling 10-11-12	R Wakley (7)
6	P6P6	EL BAE 12P (G) Mrs H Harris 10-11-12	P Taiano (7)
7	1132	ELDER PRINCE 21P (F,G,S) Mrs R Gee 10-11-12	P Gee (7)
8	R3P6	FISH QUAY 14P (D,F,G,S) Mrs K Lamb 13-11-12	Miss S Lamb (7)
9	1P32	JIMMY MAC JIMMY 20P (F,S) D Barnard 9-11-12	C Ward Thomas (7)
10	4134	SAINT BENE'T 10 (V,F,G) G Prodromou 8-11-12	A Coe (7)
11	PP4U	SURE PRIDE 21 (F,G) A Russell 8-11-12	C Ward (7)
12	1222	ZAM BEE 8 (BF,F,G,S) Mrs A Bell 10-11-12	N Bell (7)
13	-331	GOLDEN EYE 2 (G) N King 8-11-8	N King (7)
14	2F23	PAMELA'S LAD 10 (G,S) M Lloyd 10-11-8	G Hanmer (7)

3-1 Sheer Jest, 7-1 Zam Bee, 8-1 Elder Prince, Dromin Leader, Cherry Chap, 10-1 Golden Eye, Jimmy Mac Jimmy, 14-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: TODAY: Bangor: 2.10 Verro. Fakenham: 6.10 Lofty Deed, Gigfy. Lingfield: 6.00 Tear White. Southwell: 3.55 Charterforhardware, Kippanour. Thirsk: 4.15 L'Ami Louis.

7.10 PRINCE OF WALES CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£4,347: 2m 5f 110yd) (6)

1	3342	DRUMSTICK 12 (CD,F,G,S) K Bailey 10-11-10	J Railton
2	3124	MINE'S AN ACE 12 (F,G,S) Miss V Williams 9-11-5	R Greene
3	/P0-	JIMSTRO 12P (F,G,S) K Clutterbuck 11-11-4	Mr R Wakley (7)
4	2222	FIERCE 7 (V,BF,F,G,S) J Jenkins 8-11-2	A P McCoy
5	0453	TIM SOLDIER 12 (G,S) M Barraclough 9-10-12	S McNeill
6	1435	SPROWSTON BOY 79 (C,D,F,G,S) M Chapman 13-10-2	W Worthington

2-1 Drumstick, 7-2 Mine's An Ace, Fierce, 6-1 Jimstro, Tim Soldier, Sprowston Boy.

7.40 KING'S LYNN NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,038: 2m 7f 110yd) (8)

1	125U	STAC-POLLAIDH 42 (F) K Bailey 6-11-10	T J Murphy (3)
2	00P1	MIRADOR 12 (F) R Curtis 5-10-11	D Morris
3	5601	SHERS DELIGHT 5 (V,F) O Brennan 6-10-7 (7ex)	M Brennan
4	-110	NORTH BANNISTER 50 (F,G,S) T McGovern 9-10-3	A P McCoy
5	3000	JOBBER'S FIDDLE 7 D Williams 4-10-1	T Dascombe (3)
6	0P02	IMOLA 17 (B) Mrs D Haine 7-10-0	R Massey (5)
7	4-05	THEYDON PRIDE 53 K Clutterbuck 7-10-0	Mr R Wakley (7)
8	-PPP	BETTY ELSTON 21 J Thorpe 8-10-0	Miss S Lamb (7)

5-2 Mirador, 3-1 Stac-Pollaidh, Shers Delight, 6-1 North Bannister, Imola, 10-1 Jobber's Fiddle, Theydon Pride, 12-1 others

8.10 BARCLAYS BANK MAIDEN HUNTERS CHASE (£2,753: 2m 5f 110yd) (13)

1	P62F	BERVIE HOUSE 10 (G,S) W Warner 8-12-7	A Hill (3)
2	P-21	BITTER ALOE 20P (G) Mrs J Read 7-12-7	R Wakley (7)
3	03/4	DEEP IN GREEK 70P D Williams 10-12-7	A Balding (7)
4	0P54	EVERSO IRISH 20P (F) F Brennan 7-12-7	F Brennan (7)
5	PP1U	HALF A SOV 20P (G,S) R Gardiner 12-12-7	P Taiano (7)
6	P4U3	LORD RICHARD 12P (G) A Trotman 10-12-7	S Andrews (3)
7	11-1	MANOR MIEO 20P (F,G,S) G Prodromou 10-12-7	A Coe (7)
8	3R32	NO JOKER 11 (F) N Gaselee 8-12-7	M Rimell (5)
9	3243	PAPER DAYS 4 (G) Mrs J Bush 6-12-7	S Bush (5)
10	/F	RAVENS HASEY MOON 18 (S) N King 11-12-7	N Bloom (7)
11	40PF	RAYMAN 14 A Tredwell 8-12-7	J Trice-Rolph (5)
12	0142	WINTERS COTTAGE 12P (F) M Lloyd 8-12-7	G Hanmer (7)
13	1111	NETHERTARA 40P (F,G,S) Mrs D Grissell 9-12-2	P Hacking (3)

3-1 Manor Mieo, 4-1 Nethertara, 5-1 No Joker, 7-1 Bitter Aloe, 10-1 Deep In Greek, Bervie House, Paper Days, 12-1 others.

8.40 GEORGINA AND PAUL TACON'S WEDDING CELEBRATION NOVICES HURDLE (£2,686: 2m 4f) (6)

1	3406	THANE 187 (D,F) J Jenkins 7-12-3	A P McCoy
2	2122	BON VOYAGE 3 (F) D Grissell 4-11-4	J R Kavanagh
3	-2F5	GRUNDON 8 (B) Mrs L Taylor 7-11-3	J Railton
4	24-0	MANTASTIC 14 P McMahon 6-11-3	Mr P McMahon
5	6-	PIP'S DREAM 18F M Ryan 5-10-12	J Ryan
6	0000	RUBISLAW 15 Mrs K Lamb 4-10-11	Miss S Lamb (7)

4-5 Bon Voyage, 3-1 Pip's Dream, 5-1 Thane, 12-1 Grundon, Mantastic, 20-1 Rubislaw

BANGOR

THUNDERER

2.10 French Buck. 2.40 Sherwood Boy. 3.10 Last Try. 3.40 My Nominee. 4.10 Pridewood Picker. 4.40 Tough Deal. 5.10 Gaelic Million.

GOING: GOOD SIS

2.10 TOTE PLACEPOT NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,074: 2m 4f) (15 runners)

1	2111	CHIEFTAIN'S CROWN 17 (D,F) Miss K George 5-11-10	A Larnach
2	4044	DANBYS GORSE 15 (S) J Jefferson 4-11-5	M Dwyer
3	0532	SNOWY PETREL 40 K Bailey 4-11-4	A Thornton
4	0003	FRENCH BUCK 45 (B,G) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-0	C Llewellyn
5	4000	SMART APPROACH 21 Mrs M Reveley 6-10-13	P Niven
6	0000	LEAP IN THE DARK 39 Miss L Siddall 7-10-8	M Richards
7	0604	BALLYALLIA CASTLE 14 R Fisher 7-10-7	J Callaghan
8	3003	MR POPPLETON 17 R Brotherton 7-10-5	Guy Lewis (3)
9	-P61	BOSSYMOSS 14 (D,F) A Streeter 7-10-2	T Eley
10	P-00	TAYLORS HIGHFLYER 14 R Price 5-10-0	R Davis
11	00F0	ONE MORE DIME 42 J Needham 6-10-0	Mr R Thornton (7)
12	00P0	UPHAM RASCAL 25 D Gandolfo 5-10-0	Sophie Mitchell (5)
13	500-	MAYO MAN 431 M Meagher 7-10-0	B Harding
14	-P0P	BIT OF ROUGH 85 Miss H Knight 6-10-0	J F Titley
15	0600	VERRO 15 (B) K Bishop 9-10-0	S Burrough

2-1 Chieftain's Crown, 4-1 Snowy Petrel, 5-1 Mr Poppleton, 6-1 others

2.40 MAY NOVICES CHASE (£3,695: 2m 1f) (12)

1	F331	OSCAIL AN DORAS 14 (F,S) F Murphy 7-12-4	B Fenton
2	0P42	SUPER SHARP 12 (CD,G) H Oliver 8-11-11	Jacqui Oliver
3	-PP0	DIXTON HILL 63 R Dickin 8-11-4	P Niven
4	0P	FARADAY 60 D McCain 6-11-4	D McCain
5	P004	HEDGEHOPPER 21 (G,S) C Weedon 8-11-4	M Richards
6	1323	HERESTHEDEAL 264 (F,G) G McCourt 7-11-4	B Clifford
7	1-3	MUSIC SCORE 7 (F,G) Mrs L Taylor 10-11-4	R Supple
8	P452	RAINBOW WALK 12 J O'Shea 6-11-4	Michael Brennan
9	101-	SHERWOOD BOY 409 (F,G) K Bailey 7-11-4	A Thornton
10	6033	TEST MATCH 14 (G,S) W Clay 9-11-4	Guy Lewis
11	0-00	ARIOSO 56 J Needham 8-10-13	Mr R Thornton
12	5P-6	PEARL EPEE 47 D Nicholson 7-10-13	R Bellamy

3-1 Sherwood Boy, 7-2 Oscail An Doras, 5-1 Hedgehopper, 7-1 others.

3.10 8 KING STREET CHAMBERS MAIDEN HURDLE (£3,269: 2m 1f) (18)

1	60/6	CHEER'S BABY 25 G Roe 6-11-5	Shaun Graham (7)
2	6	CRUISINFORABRUISIN 14 R Price 6-11-5	R Davis
3	-504	DAYTIME DAWN 42 D Moffatt 5-11-5	D J Moffatt
4	0	EFHARISTO 15F J White 7-11-5	D Bohan (7)
5	00	FOLLOW DE CALL 50 D McCain 6-11-5	D McCain
6	5004	GOLDEN DRUM 24 (S) J Edwards 6-11-5	J F Titley
7	2P02	JOSHUA'S VISION 38 R Lee 5-11-5	C Llewellyn
8		KIERCHEM 9F R Fisher 5-11-5	J Callaghan
9	P	KINDERGARTEN BOY 11 K Bailey 5-11-5	A Thornton
10	555	LAST TRY 17 B Rothwell 5-11-5	M Moloney
11	404P	LITTLE COURT 185 E Bevan 5-11-5	B Fenton (3)
12	65	PRUSSIA 11F W Clay 5-11-5	Guy Lewis (3)
13	0	THE BINGER 84 D Nicholson 5-11-5	R Bellamy
14	6244	THE CAPTAIN'S WISH 38 (BF) D Nicholson 5-11-5	R Johnson
15	U0	CAPE COLONY 21 J O'Shea 4-11-0	Michael Brennan (7)
16		I DON'T THINK SO Miss K George 5-11-0	A Larnach
17	P	INTEABADUN 49F A Bailey 4-11-0	S Wynne
18	022	TOPANGA 15 J Bennett 4-11-0	L Harvey

7-2 The Captain's Wish, 5-1 Joshua's Vision, 6-1 The Binger, 7-1 others.

3.40 NORTH WESTERN AREA POINT-TO-POINT FINAL (Hunters' chase: £2,736: 3m 110yd) (8)

1	2111	MY NOMINEE 10 (B,CD,F,G,S) D Nicholls 8-12-10	A Griffith (7)
2	1112	AMBROSE 28 (F,G,S) Mrs T Ritson 9-12-3	W Ritson (7)
3	UR11	CHIP'N'RUN 12P (F,G,S) Ms M Teague 10-12-3	J Comes (7)
4	221P	FELL MIST 10 (F,G,S) R Teague 13-12-3	Miss A Sykes (7)
5	-321	LE PICCOLAGE 12P (F,B,S) P Morris 12-12-3	C J B Barlow (7)
6	P212	DICE OFF 27P (F,G,S) R Crank 8-11-12	G Crank (7)
7	211R	INCH MAID 12P (G) S Brookshaw 10-11-12	R Ford (7)
8	2111	SCALLY MUIRE 14P (F,G,S) G Edwards 12-11-12	A H Crow (7)

6-4 My Nominee, 4-1 Ambrose, 5-1 Scally Muire, 6-1 Chip'n'run, 7-1 others.

4.10 WIN WITH THE TOTE HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,485: 2m 1f) (9)

1	-F50	LUMUMBA DAYS 35 (D,F,S) M Meade 10-11-12	P Niven
2	0123	SHINING EDGE 14 (F,G) T Easterby 4-11-5	R Garritty
3	1621	GOLDINGO 14 (D,F,G,S) G Price 9-11-5	R Johnson
4	-004	NAIYSARI 15 (D,S) P Rich 8-11-0	D Finnegan (7)
5	14-P	SIRTELIMAR 15 (D,F,G) K Bailey 7-10-12	A Thornton
6	-400	AMBASSADOR ROYALE 21 (F,G) Miss A Broyd 8-10-11	R Supple
7	3101	PRIDEWOOD PICKER 7 (D,F,G) R Price 9-10-5	B Fenton (3)
8	3442	ORDOG MOR 10 M Meagher 7-10-4	B Harding
9	0-00	PLAYFUL JULIET 58 (G,S) A Bailey 8-10-0	S Wynne

9-4 Pridewood Picker, 3-1 Lumumba Days, 7-2 Goldingo, 5-1 others.

4.40 NORTH WEST RACING CLUB HANDICAP CHASE (£3,160: 2m 4f 110yd) (11)

1	3-02	ANDERMATT 15 (CD,S) J Mackie 9-12-0	E Husband (3)
2	0-S6	SHU FLY 15 (F,G) H Oliver 12-11-7	Jacqui Oliver
3	0204	SHANNON GLEN 17 (B,D,F,S) M Smith 10-11-4	R Supple
4	21B1	TOUGH DEAL 12 (D,F,S) P Bradley 8-10-13	A Thornton
5	2323	EAST HOUSTON 22 (F,G) J J O'Neill 7-10-12	P Niven
6	05BU	HURRYUP 15 (F,S) R Dickin 9-10-12	D Meredith
7	3444	WAYUPHILL 21 (D,S) J J O'Neill 9-10-6	A Roche (3)
8	/00	BEAUFAN 28 (C,F,G,S) B Cambidge 9-10-6	T Eley
9	0202	FOREST FEATHER 12 (B,BF,G) C Weedon 8-10-2	M Richards
10	P2F4	SQUIRRELLSDAUGHTER 2 (C,F,G,S) S Brookshaw 9-10-0	R Johnson
11	0FP4	LEINTHALL PRINCESS 14 (C,S) J Needham 10-10-0	B Fenton (3)

2-1 Tough Deal, 4-1 East Houston, 5-1 Andermatt, 7-1 others

5.10 TANNERS CHAMPAGNE MARES ONLY STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,648: 2m 1f) (18)

1	12	WYNYARD LADY 14 (BF,G) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-8	R Hodge
2		DERRING COURT E Bevan 6-11-1	G Upton
3	60	DERRYBELLE 7 D Williams 5-11-1	M Clarke
4	U	DOMANI HILL 7 Mrs A Hewitt 5-11-1	S Wynne
5	00	FLAMING ROSE 15 J Edwards 6-11-1	R Johnson
6	65	GAELIC MILLION 14 Miss H Knight 5-11-1	Mr J Culloty (3)
7	03	GENERAL COMMENT 22 J Hellens 6-11-1	P Niven
8	0	GREY DANTE 50 S Brookshaw 5-11-1	Miss S Beddoes (7)
9	0-0	JAIME'S JOY 14 G Roe 6-11-1	Martin Smith (7)
10	0	KONVEKTA QUEEN 53 O Sherwood 5-11-1	J A McCarthy
11		LITTLE SARAH B Llewellyn 5-11-1	R Davis
12	034	MADAM MUCK 53 N Twiston-Davies 5-11-1	C Llewellyn
13		PROFIT AND LOSS F Murphy 5-11-1	B Fenton (3)
14	0	RAKAPOSHI IMP 14 C Jones 6-11-1	M Keighley (7)
15	00	SISTER JIM 84 R Price 6-11-1	A Thornton
16		SO THEATRICAL Mrs L Williamson 6-11-1	L O'Hara
17	00	BLUE HAVANA 56 G Roe 4-10-10	Shaun Graham (7)
18	0	TUPENNY SMOKE 14 G Roe 4-10-10	D Finnegan (7)

2-1 Wynyard Lady, 5-1 Konvekta Queen, Madam Muck, 7-1 others.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER

2.25 Hobnobber. 2.55 Salman. 3.25 Waterford Castle. 3.55 Kippanour. 4.25 Peter Monamy. 4.55 James Pigg.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.25 THORP NOVICES HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £2,349: 3m 110yd) (12 runners)

1	323U	A WINDY CITIZEN 10 (BF,F,G,S) Mrs C Hicks 7-12-2	R Hicks (7)
2	0311	CANDLE GLOW 18 (D,F,S) P Hutchinson 8-12-2	P Hutchinson (7)
3	3211	JASILU 10 (B,S) I Mason 6-12-2	S Swiers
4	2104	BARE FISTED 10 (F) R Phizacklea 8-12-0	Miss H Phizacklea (7)
5	236P	CROMWELL POINT 10 (G,S) S Wiles 10-12-0	C Mulhall (7)
6	5001	CUMBERLAND BLUES 7P (F,G) I Lockwood 7-12-0	Miss A Deniel (7)
7	2310	EIGHTY EIGHT 6P (G) J Sutham 11-12-0	A Charles-Jones (7)
8	2932	HOBNOBBER 10 (BF,S) J Docker 9-12-0	J Docker (7)
9	3111	PARK DRIFT 7P (F,G,S) G Thomas 10-12-0	C Bonner (3)
10	PR36	PAVI'S BROTHER 40P (G) C Sweeting 8-12-0	R Sweeting (7)
11	5F32	PRIVATE JET 9 I Brown 7-12-0	G Markham (7)
12	F/P-	TBILISI 514 M Lloyd 9-12-0	G Hanmer (7)

3-1 Jasilu, 4-1 Candle Glow, 9-2 Park Drift, 6-1 A Windy Citizen, 10-1 others

2.55 BASSINGHAM NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,645: 2m) (6)

1	1115	UNCLE BERT 40 (D,BF,F,G,S) G McCourt 6-12-0	D Fortt (3)
2	610U	SALMAN 12 (CD,F,G) Mrs V Ward 10-11-9	D Parker (3)
3	2462	ARCTIC LIFE 14 (G,S) J Jenkins 7-11-8	A P McCoy
4	-001	EASTERN MAGIC 21 (D,F,G) G Barnett 8-11-1	D Walsh (3)
5	0004	MARINERS COVE 7 C Broad 8-10-13	W Marston
6	0006	SILVER SUMAL 39 H Oliver 7-10-0	V Slattery

9-4 Arctic Life, 11-4 Uncle Bert, 7-2 Salman, 6-1 Eastern Magic, 7-1 others.

3.25 EAST MIDLANDS ELECTRICITY (LINCOLN) HANDICAP CHASE (£5,075: 3m 110yd) (5)

1	2322	PHILIP'S WOODY 22 (F,G,S) N Henderson 8-11-12	J R Kavanagh
2	2151	WATERFORD CASTLE 14 (D,F,G,S) K Bailey 9-11-0	T J Murphy (3)
3	0121	CHILDHAY CHOCOLATE 23 (F,S) P Nicholls 8-10-9	A P McCoy
4	3P2P	BANNTOWN BILL 3 (B,H,D,F,G,S) M Pipe 7-10-6	D Bridgwater
5	P604	JIM VALENTINE 7 (F,S) C Broad 10-10-4	W Marston

6-4 Childhay Chocolate, 2-1 Waterford Castle, 3-1 Philip's Woody, 8-1 others.

3.55 BUTTERFLY POULTRY NOVICES HURDLE (£2,448: 2m 4f 110yd) (10)

1	3026	ALL ON 21 (F) J Hetherton 5-11-3	R Marley
2	6000	AH THERE YOU ARE 21 K Bailey 7-11-2	T J Murphy (3)
3	33FP	CHARTERFORHARDWARE 7 (V,S) W Clay 10-11-2	R Farrant
4	-303	DEEP FAIR 15 Mrs S Smith 9-11-2	R Guest
5	3233	KIPPANOUR 11 (B,G) C Mann 4-11-2	J Railton
6		TRIPLE EAVES J Norton 5-11-2	W Fry
7	-UPU	POLITICAL SKIRMISH 40P I Park 7-10-11	N Smith
8	2	AMERCIUS 12 J L Harris 4-10-10	D Bridgwater
9	0633	PRETORIA DANCER 23 (B) C Brooks 4-10-10	G Bradley
10	6303	WANSTEAD 14 (V) J Jenkins 4-10-10	S Fox

11-4 Kippanour, 4-1 Amercius, All On, 5-1 Pretoria Dancer, 6-1 others.

4.25 MOORHOUSE JUVENILE NOVICES SELLING HURDLE (£2,490: 2m) (10)

1	0614	GENERAL JIMBO 8 (V,D,F) A Harrison 11-3	R Farrant
2	12	PETER MONAMY 17 (F) M Pipe 11-3	D Bridgwater
3	000	FRANS LAD 22 W Clay 10-12	W Marston
4	54	HANCOCK 21 J Hetherton 10-12	R Marley
5	0000	KIND PRINCE 12 (B) S Harris 10-12	Mr P Murray (7)
6	00P6	MINNESOTA FATS 5 Miss M Rowland 10-12	Gary Lyons
7	40F	NIGHT TIME 9F A Streeter 10-12	L Aspell (5)
8	00	RAZMAK 154 M Todhunter 10-12	F Leahy (3)
9		BITCH 30F G Kelly 10-7	Mr C Mulhall
10	00	QUILLWORK 31F Mrs J Cecil 10-7	T Kent

2-1 Peter Monamy, 4-1 Quillwork, General Jimbo, 5-1 Night Time, 8-1 others

4.55 KELHAM CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,925: 3m 110yd) (8)

1	3261	TALLYWAGGER 12 (CD,F,G) G Moore 9-12-1	T Hogg (7)
2	5012	JAMES PIGG 7 (BF,F,G,S) M Pipe 9-12-0	O Burrows (3)
3	0443	JARRWAH 10 (V,D,G) J Spearing 8-11-4	S Righton (5)
4	0022	PLATO'S REPUBLIC 12 (F) J Jenkins 5-10-5	S Fox
5	113F	SLAUGHT SON 35 (D,BF,G) R Fisher 8-10-4	F Leahy
6	0013	THARSIS 3 (D,BF,F,G) W Smith 11-10-3	S Taylor (3)
7	0633	MISS PIMPERNEL 12 (B,D,F) A Barrow 6-10-0	Sophie Mitchell
8	/5-6	ARR EFF BEE 12 (B,G) J Smith 9-10-0	L Aspell

5-2 Tallywagger, Jarrwah, 3-1 James Pigg, 6-1 Slaught Son, 10-1 others.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Newbury

Going: good to firm

2.05 (1m) 1, Keltoi (M J Kinane, 5-1); 2, *Gold Spats* (5-2 fav); 3, *Hismagicmoment* (6-1). 20 ran. Hd, 1l. L Cumani. Tote £5.30; £1.90, £1.60, £3.10. DF £9.80. Trio: £36.80. CSF £18.89.

2.40 (5f 34yd) 1, *More Silver* (T Quinn, 8-11 fav); 2, Arethusa (4-1); 3, What Happened Was (50-1). 3 ran. 5l, 5l. P Cole. Tote £1.80. DF £2.10. CSF £3.73.

3.10 (1m 2f 6yd) 1, Mezzogiorno (R Cochrane, 5-2); 2, Quota (5-6 fav); 3, Miss Universal (7-1). 5 ran. NR: Silk Masque. 3l, 1½l. G Wragg. Tote £3.50; £1.50, £1.20. DF £1.80. CSF £4.95.

3.40 (1m 2f 6yd) 1, Niknaks Nephew (R Hughes, 50-1); 2, Ground Game (2-1 fav); 3, Balneta (33-1); 4, *Noble Sprinter* (12-1). 20 ran. NR: Dolliver, Out On A Promise. 2l, 7l. B Meehan. Tote £53.90; £6.40, £1.30, £8.70, £3.30. DF £119.40. Trio £1,704.50. CSF £148.52. Tricast £3,332.49.

4.10 (6f 8yd) 1, Rambling Bear (R Cochrane, 13-2); 2, Atraf (3-1 fav); 3, *Warning Time* (7-1). 9 ran. NR: Watch Me. 3½l, nk. M Blanshard. Tote £6.60; £2.90, £1.90, £1.50. DF £7.60. Trio £18.40. CSF £25.10.

4.40 (1m 4f 5yd) 1, *Dance So Suite* (T Quinn, 16-1); 2, Paradise Waters (12-1); 3, Southern Power (5-1). General Moulcar 3-1 fav. 11 ran. 2½l, 6l. P Cole. Tote £22.60; £3.90, £3.60, £2.30. DF £204.10. Trio: £1,055.90. CSF £173.82. Tricast £1,013.33.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £116,534.43 carried forward to Newbury today).

Placepot: £110.80. Quadpot: £31.20.

Newmarket

Going: good

2.15 (6f) 1, Open Credit (W Ryan, 4-6 fav); 2, Rich In Love (11-2); 3, Solfegietto (7-2). 4 ran. 5l, nk. H Cecil. Tote: £1.60. DF: £2.80. CSF: £4.56.

2.50 (7f) 1, Saseedo (Emma O'Gorman, 11-2); 2, Czarna (7-1); 3, *Courageous Dancer* (5-1). Cyrano's Lad 9-4 fav. 6 ran. 1l, 5l. W O'Gorman. Tote: £5.90; £2.20, £1.90. DF: £13.50. CSF £34.44.

3.20 (1m 6f) 1, Opaque (J Weaver, 2-1 fav); 2, Fabillion (6-1); 3, Rock Group (14-1). 10 ran. Sh hd, 1¼l. L Cumani. Tote: £2.80; £1.50, £2.50, £5.30. DF: £6.00. Trio: £93.10. CSF: £14.52. Tricast £126.25.

3.50 (7f) 1, *Ali-Royal* (W Ryan, 5-1); 2, Rabican (25-1); 3, World Premier (7-2). Projection 15-8 fav. 7 ran. NR: Ramooz. 8l, sh hd. H Cecil. Tote: £7.10; £2.90, £5.00. DF: £58.50. CSF £81.55.

4.20 (1m) 1, Rebel County (J Stack, 15-8 fav); 2, Eagle Canyon (8-1); 3, *Ivory's Grab Hire* (33-1). 11 ran. 4l, sh hd. D Cosgrove. Tote £3.00; £1.50, £2.10, £4.70. DF: £15.40. Trio £309.70. CSF: £17.17.

4.55 (1m 4f) 1, Arnhem (B Doyle, 5-6 fav); 2, *Ancient Quest* (9-1); 3, Chocolate Ice (11-2). 5 ran. NR: Parrot's Hill. 1¼l, 7l. C Brittain. Tote £1.50; £1.10, £2.20. DF: £11.30. CSF £7.61.

5.25 (7f) 1, The Stager (A Daly, 4-1); 2, Easy Jet (13-2); 3, Sharpical (7-2 jt-fav). Blockade 7-2 jt-fav. 8 ran. NR: Jibereen. 1½l, hd. J Jenkins. Tote: £4.60; £1.40, £2.20, £1.50. DF £13.80. Trio £27.10. CSF: £26.61.

Placepot: £648.50. Quadpot: £57.50.

Thirsk

Going: good to firm

2.00 (1m) 1, Caribbean Dancer (D McKeown, 3-1 fav); 2, Time Of Night (12-1); 3, *Alreeh* (7-2). 9 ran. Hd, 1l. M Stoute. Tote: £3.90; £1.70, £1.60, £1.30. DF: £40.60. Trio: £35.50. CSF: £35.17.

2.30 (7f) 1, Lunch Party (Alex Greaves, 11-8 fav); 2, Mels Baby (5-1); 3, Bold Angel (3-1). 9 ran. 5l, 3½l. D Nicholls. Tote: £2.60; £1.60, £1.70, £1.40. DF: £8.50. Trio: £10.70. CSF: £10.32.

3.00 (6f) 1, Benzoe (J Fortune, 10-1); 2, Almasi (7-1); 3, Plum First (8-1); 4, Daawe (11-2). It's Academic 5-1 fav. 16 ran. 1l, ¾l. Mrs J Ramsden. Tote: £11.50; £3.10, £2.50, £2.60, £1.60. DF: £77.30. Trio: £269.70. CSF: £75.38. *Tricast*: £572.13.

3.30 (2m) 1, Uncle Doug (J Fanning, 5-2); 2, Great Easeby (6-4 fav); 3, Sea Victor (6-1). 5 ran. Sh hd, 5l. *Mrs M Reveley*. Tote: £3.70; £1.40, £1.10. DF: £2.70. CSF: £6.39.

4.00 (1m 4f) 1, Anchorena (K Fallon, 9-4 jt-fav); 2, Loveyoumillions (9-4 jt-fav); 3, *Elite Bliss* (33-1). 15 ran. 1l, 10l. J A Harris. Tote: £3.40; £1.30, £1.40, £4.80. DF: £5.50. Trio: £41.10. CSF: £7.51.

4.30 (1m) 1, *Chief Burundi* (K Darley, 7-4); 2, Dawna (4-5 fav); 3, Lachesis (20-1). 8 ran. 2½l, 6l. L Cumani. Tote: £3.00; £1.10, £1.20, £2.20. DF: £1.60. CSF: £3.51.

5.00 (5f) 1, *Tuscan Dawn* (P Roberts, 14-1); 2, Just Bob (9-4 fav); 3, Here Comes A Star (15-2). 9 ran. NR: Insider Trader, Windrush Boy. Hd, ¾l. J Berry. Tote: £18.40; £3.20, £1.80, £2.00. DF: £23.10. Trio £81.00. CSF: £47.58. Tricast £251.28.

5.30 (7f) 1, Broctune Gold (A Culhane, 10-11 fav); 2, My Godson (7-2); 3, Valiant Man (9-1). 9 ran. 5l, 2½l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £1.80, £2.60. DF: £2.80. Trio: £7.60. CSF: £4.98. No bid.

Placepot: £8.50. Quadpot: £3.60.

Thursday's late results

Aintree

Going: good to firm

5.45 (3m 1f ch) 1, *Syd Green* (Mr S Walker, 5-1); 2, Whinstone Mill (12-1); 3, Stilodo (8-1). Kenilworth 11-8 fav (f). 11 ran. 21l, 21l. A Walker. Tote: £7.50; £2.00, £2.10, £1.90. DF: £35.80. *Trio*: £48.20. CSF: £53.32.

6.15 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Colorful Ambition (J Railton, 5-1); 2, El Don (12-1); 3, Master Sandy (3-1 fav). 7 ran. 3l, 1½l. Mrs A Swinbank. Tote: £5.80; £2.00, £3.50. DF: £39.90. CSF: £50.43.

6.45 (3m 1f ch) 1, Tartan Tradewinds (A Dobbin, 11-2); 2, Synderborough Lad (5-1); 3, Man Of Mystery (7-1). Alf's Alibi 2-1 fav. 8 ran. 19l, 2l. G Richards. Tote: £7.10; £2.50, £1.80, £2.10. DF: £16.20. CSF: £28.53. Tricast: £148.43.

7.15 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Teen Jay (A P McCoy, 5-1); 2, Diamond Cut (8-1); 3, Mutly (3-1 fav). 8 ran. 1½l, 3½l. B Llewellyn. Tote: £6.60; £3.80, £2.50. DF: £21.70. CSF: £38.82.

7.45 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Earlymorning Light (A Dobbin, 8-13 fav); 2, *Merlins Dream* (5-2); 3, Chalie Richards (20-1). 4 ran. 4l, 2½l. G Richards. Tote: £1.60. DF: £1.80. CSF: £2.35.

8.15 (2m ch) 1, Strong Approach (A P McCoy, 7-2 jt-fav); 2, Dr Rocket (11-1); 3, Full O'Praise (7-2 jt-fav). Micherado 7-2 jt-fav (pu). 6 ran. NR: Circulation, Saltash. 10l, 17l. J Charlton. Tote: £4.00; £2.70, £1.90. DF: £22.30. CSF: £31.01. Tricast: £109.94.

8.45 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, *Gamwin* (J R Kavanagh, 4-1); 2, Young Radical (3-1 jt-fav); 3, The Bounder (3-1 jt-fav). 6 ran. 10l, 14l. N Henderson. Tote: £6.80; £2.20, £1.80. DF: £9.10. CSF: £15.42.

Placepot: £1,743.70.

Quadpot: £91.20.

Folkestone

Going: good

6.00 (2m 5f ch) 1, Tom Furze (Mr R Nuttall, 12-1); 2, Bennings Dasher (11-8 fav); 3, Bubbles Galore (33-1). 9 ran. 7l, 4l. Mrs D Buckell. Tote: £14.60; £1.20, £1.30, £5.20. DF: £8.40. Trio: £118.60. CSF: £27.63.

6.30 (3m 2f ch) 1, *Stede Quarter* (Mr P Hickman, 4-1); 2, Rolleston Blade (11-2); 3, Salmon River (7-2). Transplant Blue 3-1 fav. 8 ran. 1¾l, 12l. R Dench. *Tote*: £4.70; £1.10, £1.50, £1.30. DF: £11.90. CSF: £24.38.

7.00 (3m 2f ch) 1, Cardinal Red (Miss L Hollis, 3-1); 2, Strong Gold (10-11 fav); 3, Trust The Gypsy (9-2). 6 ran. NR: The Portsoy Loon. Sh hd, 6l. J Turner. Tote: £3.40; £1.10, £1.70. DF: £3.70. CSF: £5.89.

7.30 (3m 7f ch) 1, Over The Edge (Mr S Sporborg, 15-8); 2, Woodlands Genhire (20-1); 3, *Kates Castle* (8-1). *Sonofagipsy* 7-4 fav. 9 ran. 1¼l, hd. S Sporborg. Tote: £3.00; £1.10, £4.70, £1.70. DF: £32.80. Trio: £48.70. CSF: £32.35.

8.00 (2m 5f ch) 1, Pontabula (Mr A Charles-Jones, 9-4 fav); 2, Fathers Footprints (12-1); 3, Spar Copse (16-1). 10 ran. 7l, 7l. P Greenwood. Tote: £4.10; £2.00, £2.30, £4.40. DF: £19.70. Trio: £126.10. CSF: £28.98.

8.30 (2m 5f ch) 1, *Chilipour* (Mr N Harris, 4-5 fav); 2, Retail Runner (4-1); 3, Counterbid (14-1). 8 ran. NR: Old Road, Spitfire Jubilee. 5l, 30l. Victor Dartnall. Tote: £2.50; £1.20, £1.10, £2.20. DF: £3.20. Trio: £13.60. CSF: £4.77.

Placepot: £76.00. Quadpot: £9.90.

Grey areas prove worry for Edwards

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT IN ATLANTA

LOOKING noticeably greyer than last season, with an even shorter haircut, Jonathan Edwards has had eight months to worry. Eight months wondering whether his sorcerer's skills would still be there when he needed them again.

Edwards has never been able to explain his metamorphosis from good but unexceptional triple jumper into world record-holder, world champion, world male athlete of 1995 and BBC Sports Personality of the Year. "I do not quite know how it all happened and whether it will happen again," Edwards said here as he looked ahead to his first competition of 1996 today.

"I improved a metre having been in athletics eight years and, until I do it again, I will have doubt in my mind," he said. "The last month has been hard because I have been playing through my mind all the scenarios of what might happen."

Might he slip back into being a low 17 metres jumper? Would the nightmare of the 1992 Olympic Games be repeated this year, his failure to break even 16 metres eliminating him before the final?

"I need a competition to reassure myself that I can still do what I did last year," Edwards, 30, said. "The pressure I feel is: 'Can I jump well again?' There are huge expectations but there is a healthy bit of fear in me that thinks it might not happen again."

The indications from training are that his fear is irrational. While in Tallahassee, he exceeded 17 metres off a 14-stride approach. In competition, he takes 18 steps. "I am a little further in training this year than last year, but then I was not jumping in Florida, I was jumping in Jarrow in the cold."

Significantly, he has improved his speed. The personal best 100 metres of 10.48sec, which he ran last week, sits well with his analysis of what sets him apart from other triple jumpers. "It is my ability to maintain my speed at the board and through the phases," he said. With greater speed, perhaps he has not finished with the world record.

Edwards won all 14 of his competitions last season, without one being close, and, if his pre-eminence is to be challenged, it is likely to be more a consequence of others responding to his world record of 18.29 metres than of him failing to recapture the form of last year. Once the four-minute mile was broken, it opened the floodgates and Edwards believes the same might happen now in the triple jump.

"For ten years, everybody stacked up at about 17.90 metres," he said. "It will be an interesting year to see how everybody has reacted." Francis Agyepong, the European indoor silver-medal winner, caught the mood of the opposition. "A lot of guys were crushed and messed up by what he did last year, but now you have to start thinking about 18 metres to compete with him." Agyepong, a fellow Briton, said. "I think three others can go over 18 metres this year."

The International Amateur Athletic Federation grand prix today is the first meeting in the Centennial Olympic Stadium. With temperatures forecast to rise to 95F, a crowd of some 50,000 likely and good opposition, Edwards will gain some feel of how the Olympics will be. He has been training in Florida for 11 weeks, sometimes in temperatures in the low 90s. "I know it is going to be hotter in Atlanta but I have been encouraged by how well I have responded to heat in the early stages," he said.

His first competition of 1996 is in marked contrast to his first of 1995 when, on a damp and chilly day at Loughborough, in a representative match with few spectators, he set a British record of 17.58 metres. "Something equivalent to that will be my first point of comparison," Edwards said in response to a question about what distance would constitute a satisfactory start.

Florida, where he was not recognised, has been a break from celebrity pressures. "Once when I was shopping at the Metro Centre [in Gateshead] I felt like I had two heads because everybody was looking at me," he said.

A devoutly religious man, he describes himself still as "a regular, ordinary guy, married, two kids". He has, he said, not indulged in any frivolous spending, despite signing a three-year contract with Puma that could, with bonuses, yield £500,000.

"I am the same person with the same values, the same motivation," he insisted. And the same sorcerer's skills? We should know today.

Barrichello acknowledges his supporters before starting a practice session for the Monaco Grand Prix, which takes place tomorrow

Barrichello puts the demons to flight

Oliver Holt meets a Formula One driver finally coming to terms with the loss of Ayrton Senna

Two years ago, he was being touted in the tabloids as the "£10 million Rubens". Between then and now, though, the canvas has been scratched and scraped. Only this season has the true picture re-emerged. At last, Rubens Barrichello is himself again.

In only his third race after making his Formula One debut for Jordan in 1993, he ran second to his countryman and idol, Ayrton Senna, for long periods of the European Grand Prix at Donington Park and was immediately hailed as a future world champion. When Senna died at Imola in May 1994, Barrichello was tipped to become his replacement at Williams.

Then he descended into darkness. His rivals were all shaken by the death of the three-times world champion but gradually they banished it to the back of their minds. Barrichello tried, but failed. At Imola, he had nearly been killed two days before Senna in a crash that was a harbinger of the tragedy to come. When he regained consciousness in the track's medical centre, Senna was the first person he saw.

He watched Senna's own crash from his home in Cambridge, bewildered as the seriousness of the accident gradually became apparent. Then, he became obsessed by the idea of taking up Senna's mantle, of becoming the instant hero Brazil demanded. The harder he tried, the worse it got.

He stayed at Jordan but when Eddie Irvine, his new team-mate, got into his stride, the Ulsterman's insouciance unsettled Barrichello even more. Irvine outqualified him regularly last year as the Brazilian, still the youngest driver in Formula One, struggled with an alien braking system and wrestled with the demons in his head.

The prophecies of greatness seemed an age away and some even doubted whether Barrichello would keep his seat at Jordan this season, let alone grab one of the top drives with Benetton, Ferrari or Williams that once seemed to be his for the asking. As his form faded, his humour suffered, too, and he began to gain a reputation for being temperamental.

This year, though, everything has changed. It is as though a huge weight has been lifted. The team says that the boy has become a man, that he is a joy to work with again. Barrichello has this season outqualified his team-mate, Martin Brundle, at every race and is sixth in the drivers' championship with seven points.

Suddenly, the talk is of the possibility that Barrichello will win races this season. Jordan's Peugeot engine is performing well — at last — and the team has been buoyed by a new sponsorship deal with Benson and Hedges. For their young driver, though, the most important change has taken place in his mind: he has found peace with his memories of Senna.

"I was trying to be someone that I could not be," he said. "someone that no one could be. I was running flat out but it was not enough. I felt alone in Brazil and that I had to do something more.

"Qualifying eighth or tenth was not enough but suddenly I was qualifying sixteenth and that blew my mind away. For years in Brazil, when it was not Nelson Piquet winning races, then it was Senna and before them it was Emerson Fittipaldi. So it had to be someone new. We were too used to having someone all the time.

"The media wanted me to be Senna straight away but I could not cope. Today, though, I believe that it does not have to be anyone so it's OK again. That is the big difference. I am just me again."

Even in the dark days, Barrichello still brought Jordan their proudest achievements. He scored their first podium position when he finished third in the Pacific Grand Prix at Aida in April 1994. He claimed their first pole position before the Belgian Grand Prix at Spa four months later and secured their best result with a second place in Canada in June last year.

"We have grown together," Barrichello said, "and if we continue to progress as I hope, I will be happy to stay. Winning races this season is possible if we have a little luck but I do not set ambitions any more. I have learnt that things can change very quickly."

Seles makes plans for return to British competition

BY ALIX RAMSAY

MONICA SELES yesterday set the wheels in motion to bring her into competitive tennis action in Britain for the first time in four years.

The 22-year-old joint world No 1 asked George Hendon, the director of the Direct Line Insurance International championship, to reserve her a wild-card entry for the pre-Wimbledon tournament, which starts in Eastbourne on June 18.

Seles won the Australian Open on her return to the circuit this year after recovering from the physical — and psychological — wounds sustained when she was stabbed in the back by a spectator in Munich three years ago.

The entry list for Eastbourne now looks particularly enticing. Conchita Martinez, Chanda Rubin, Jana Novotna and Mary Pierce are all scheduled to play, along with Steffi Graf, Seles's great rival and co-holder of the world No 1 ranking.

Yesterday, at the German Open in Berlin, Graf recorded a predictable 6-1, 7-5 quarter-final win over Nathalie Tauziat, of France, but very little else that happened in the tournament could be classified as routine. Graf's semi-final opponent, Iva Majoli, the No 3 seed from Croatia, was the only other seed to escape elimination when she scrambled to a 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 win against Barbara Paulus, of Austria.

The leading casualty was Arantxa Sánchez Vicario, the defending champion. She has been struggling all week but even she could not have been expecting to be sent packing 6-3, 2-6, 6-0 by Elena Likhovtseva, an unseeded Russian.

Likhovtseva will meet Karina Habsudova, of Slovakia, another non-seed, who followed defeats of Martina Hingis and Pierce with success against Anke Huber.

The giant-killing theme was mirrored at the Rover International championship in Cardiff, Henrietta Nagyova, of Slovakia, securing a place in the semi-finals by beating the No 5 seed, Naoke Kijimuta, of Japan, 7-6, 7-5.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

EXCLUSIVE PLAYERS' POLL

In an exclusive poll of English First Division players, The Sunday Times reveals who is the rugby players' Player of the Year.
The poll also reveals their selections for the England team, which throws up plenty of surprises – not least for Jack Rowell (pictured)

THE SUNDAY TIMES *IS* THE SUNDAY PAPERS

New route to world title beckons for Bruno

FRANK BRUNO could emerge as a challenger for the World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight championship if Mike Tyson does not defend against Lennox Lewis later this year and decides to give up the title (Srikumar Sen writes).

At present, Oliver McCall is the first choice of Don King, Tyson's promoter, to take on Lewis if the WBC title becomes vacant. But if Bruno wants to make another attempt at the title he could demand to be nominated by the WBC before McCall. Bruno is third in the latest WBC rankings and McCall is No 4.

All Bruno needs to do to keep his ranking is to stay active until such time as Tyson vacates the title.

Bruno's promoter, Frank Warren, said yesterday: "If Tyson gives up the title it would be great for British heavyweights. Henry Akinwande is No 2 to Lewis and Frank Bruno is No 3. I don't know if Bruno wants to keep on fighting, but if he does I would certainly push his case."

Akinwande is unlikely to feature for the WBC title as he is expected to challenge for the World Boxing Organisation version vacated by Riddick Bowe. Warren said that if Axel Schulz, of Germany, beats Michael Moorer for the International Boxing Federation title on June 22, he would put forward Scott Welch, of Brighton, as a challenger.

WEEKEND FIXTURES

Today

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

International match
England v Hungary
(at Wembley) ....

Tennents Scottish Cup
Final
Hearts v Rangers
(at Hampden Park, Glasgow) ....

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Netherne v Peppard; Reading v Cranleigh.
ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division (2.45): Southam v Mer KA; Handrahan Timbers v West Midland Fire Service.
JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Harwich and Parkeston v Watton.

CRICKET

Tetley's Challenge Series
11.0, final day of three
HOVE: Sussex v Indians

Britannic Assurance championship
11.0, third day of four, 104 overs minimum
CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham v Yorkshire
ILFORD: Essex v Kent
CARDIFF: Glamorgan v Derbyshire
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Somerset
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Worcestershire
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Lancashire
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Hampshire

University matches
11.0, final day of three
FENNER'S: Cambridge University v Middlesex
THE PARKS: Oxford University v Northamptonshire

RUGBY UNION

Peace International
Ireland v Barbarians
(at Lansdowne Road, 3.0) ....

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Super League
Workington v Wigan (7.30) ....

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Howorth v Egremont (2.30); Millom v Wigan St Patricks (2.30), West Hull v Woolston (2.30).

OTHER SPORT

CYCLING: Banner Telecom five-nations grand prix (Manchester Velodrome, 6.45): London Fire Brigade 10 (Holmwood, 2.0)
GOLF: Benson and Hedges International Open (Thame); Brabazon Trophy (Royal St George's).
GYMNASTICS: Women's European championships (NEC, Birmingham)
HOCKEY: English women's veterans championship finals: Ealing v Ipswich v Owls v Sheffield Leaguers v Weroys (Milton Keynes Stadium, 9.30).
ROWING: Barclays' Bradford sprint regatta (River Aire, Hirst Weir, Shipley).
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Scottish Monarchs v Belle Vue (at Glasgow, 6.30). Conference League: Buxton v Mildenhall (3.0); Linlithgow v Sheffield (2.30); Sittingbourne v Arena Essex (2.0).
TENNIS: Rover championships (Welsh National Tennis Centre, Cardiff).

Tomorrow

CRICKET

AXA Equity & Law League
2.0, 40 overs

CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham v Yorkshire
ILFORD: Essex v Kent
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Somerset
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Worcestershire
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Lancashire
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Hampshire
1.0
CARDIFF: Glamorgan v Derbyshire

MCC TROPHY (one day). Preliminary round: Penrith: Cumbria v Cheshire; Brockhampton: Herefordshire v Wiltshire; Shenley Park: Hertfordshire v Dorset; Walsall: Staffordshire v Norfolk.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

Stones Super League
Bradford v Paris Saint-Germain (6.0) ....
Castleford v London (5.30) ....
Leeds v Halifax ....
Sheffield v Oldham (5.30) ....

First division
Batley v Keighley (5.30) ....
Huddersfield v Wakefield (3.30) ....
Salford v Featherstone (6.0) ....
Whitehaven v Hull (3.30) ....
Widnes v Dewsbury ....

Second division
Bramley v Prescot (5.0) ....
Chorley v Leigh ....
Hull K R v Barrow ....
Hunslet v Doncaster (3.30) ....
Swinton v Carlisle (6.30) ....

FOOTBALL

FA Umbro Trophy
Final
Macclesfield v Northwich
(at Wembley, 4.0) ....

OTHER SPORT

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: World League (WLAF): London Monarchs v Frankfurt (at White Hart Lane, 3.0); Scottish Claymores v Rhein Fire (at Murrayfield, 3.0).
ATHLETICS: AAA v Great Britain Students (Loughborough).
CYCLING: Lincoln Grand Prix (102 miles, 1.0); National championship (10 miles, Marlow, 8.0)
GOLF: Benson and Hedges International Open (Thame); Brabazon Trophy (Royal St George's).
GYMNASTICS: Women's European championships (NEC, Birmingham)
HOCKEY: HA Veterans Cup: Final: Maidenhead v Bishop's Stortford Archdeacons (5.30) AEWHA Cup: Final: Ipswich v Clifton (2.30). Plate: Final: Kettering v Worksop (10.0). Under-15: Final: Henry Cort v Portishead HC (noon). (at Milton Keynes Stadium).
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Scottish Monarchs v Middlesbrough (at Glasgow, 6.30). Conference League: Eastbourne v Sittingbourne (1.0); Mildenhall v Berwick (3.0); Swindon v Arena Essex (6.0) Challenge: Linlithgow v Cleveland (2.30).
TENNIS: Rover championships (Welsh National Tennis Centre, Cardiff).

Win tickets for Euro 96

The Times has six pairs of tickets to give away for England's matches at Wembley against Switzerland, Scotland and Holland as well as a pair of tickets for the Wembley quarter-final, semi-final and final matches.

HOW TO ENTER

Collect 10 tokens from those printed in The Times until Saturday May 25. Token six appears below and a bonus token appears in the Euro ITF supplement inserted into today's paper. Attach them to the form below and send it with the answer the question below to the given address. The closing date for receipt of entries is Wednesday May 29. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

Q. *Which country won the 1992 European championship?*

Up to four previously published tokens can be obtained by sending a SAE before May 22 to: *The Times* Token Request, PO Box 480, London E1 9DN.

THE TIMES
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هكذا من الاصل

Hearts haunted by failure

Rangers aiming to resume normal service after break

By Kevin McCarra

THE Tennents Scottish Cup final this afternoon makes contrasting demands of its contestants, requiring Rangers simply to be themselves and Heart of Midlothian utterly to change their ways. Having failed to win the trophy for 40 years, Hampden Park has been a place of disappointment and penance for the Edinburgh club.

It might, in consequence, seem that Rangers can unthinkingly be trusted to complete the league and cup double this season, just as Manchester United have already done in England. Living up to its reputation, however, could prove taxing to Walter Smith's team. Rangers clinched the Bell's Scottish League premier division title all of three weeks ago and one wonders to what extent they have been weakened by joy.

A side's tenacity begins to slacken once it has achieved its main objective. Smith has already been afflicted by the syndrome, for, two years ago, Rangers, after taking the championship, were jaded enough to lose the cup final to Dundee United. The manager has spent this week pondering the condition of his players.

Can Rangers' form have tumbled down into the gulf that separates the league season from the occasion this afternoon? "The physical condition has not deteriorated," Smith said, "because we have trained hard, but one of the things we do have to overcome is the difficulty of recovering the mental edge that is necessary."

The team could be blunted in more mundane ways as well. Trevor Steven has already been ruled out with a knee injury and Ally McCoist faced a fitness test last night to determine whether his calf strain has cleared up. Rangers, however, do possess the size of squad that should make the loss of players more disappointing to the individuals themselves than to the club as a whole.

Any Hearts supporter would, in addition, snort at the idea of the Ibrox club being assailed by psychological worries. A Tynecastle regular, after all, has a much more intimate understanding of mental torment. On his appointment last summer, Jim Jefferies, the Hearts manager, was struck by the vast number of superstitions practised, and lucky charms collected, by his players.

The club is without a trophy since the League Cup success of the 1962-63 season. The sense of inadequacy, however, is offset by a remarkable recent record that has seen Hearts win four of their last six matches against Rangers. In 1996 alone, Smith's team has lost 3-0 at home and 2-0 at Tynecastle.

TEAMS

Probable line-ups

HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN (3-5-2): G Rousset — A McManus, P Bruno, P Ritchie — D McPherson, G Locke, S Fulton, G Mackay, N Pointon — A Johnston, J Colquhoun

RANGERS (3-5-2): A Goram — A McLaren, R Gough, J Brown — A Cleland, P Gascoigne, S McCall, B Laudrup, D Robertson — A McCoist, G Durie

Jefferies has achieved a resurgence at Hearts by achieving objectives that appeared to be contrary. He introduced new blood while also re-establishing the club's identity. The manager has expertly trawled the market for players who are free or exceedingly cheap, signing the defender, Pasquale Bruno, once of Juventus and Torino, Gilles Rousset, a France international goalkeeper, and Neil Pointon, who used to be a full-back with Everton.

Gascoigne: influential

At the same time, however, he has given regular places to four young players — Gary Locke, Alan McManus, Paul Ritchie and Allan Johnston — who have been reared by Hearts and steeped in its ways. Locke, at 21, is the team captain. The redevelopment of the side sometimes sees a cherished figure of modern times, John Robertson, left on the bench, but there can be little dissent when Hearts' results are so greatly improved.

The pattern of the game today is certain, even if its outcome is unknown. Jefferies readily admits that Rangers are bound to enjoy a territorial advantage, but he can make that admission cheerily, for Smith's team has choked on that glut of possession in the recent defeats by Hearts.

Once the Edinburgh side had taken the lead at Ibrox in January, they were able to hit an impulsive Rangers team on the break and Johnston scored all three goals in the victory. There must be doubts, however, whether Hearts could devise an alternative strategy should they fall behind this afternoon.

Rangers, with Brian Laudrup and Paul Gascoigne likely to relish the space afforded by Hampden's large surface, are entitled to expect that they will not only dominate the play, but also establish a lead. They may encounter difficulties, though, if the Hearts defence demonstrates the same hardiness the manager displays when asked about the decades of failure.

"Every year that goes by without a trophy takes us closer to the day when it will happen, because it will happen one day," Jefferies said stoically.

MARC ASPLAND

Jason Wilcox is sized up for the England shirt he will wear against Hungary by Teddy Sheringham, his team-mate at Wembley today. Report, page 48

Saunders enters QPR bidding

By Russell Kempson

ERNEST SAUNDERS, the former chief executive of Guinness, has joined the bidding to take over Queens Park Rangers, the recently relegated FA Carling Premiership club. Rangers officials are expected to meet Saunders to begin discussions early next week.

Alan Hedges, the Rangers managing director, said yesterday: "We will consider any possible buyer as long as they have the club's interests at heart. We don't want someone who will only stay for two or three years and strip our assets during that time."

Saunders, 60, initially wrote to Richard Thompson, the former chairman of Rangers, expressing an interest. The Thompson family ended their eight-year connection with the club when Richard stood down from the board a week ago and Saunders was advised to pursue further his interest by contacting Hedges or Clive Berlin, the new chairman.

"At present, we don't know whether he is acting on his own behalf or representing a consortium," Hedges said. "We will find out when we begin speaking to him."

Saunders, a Rangers director in the 1980s, was sentenced to five years in prison for his part in an illegal share scheme during Guinness's controversial £2.7 billion takeover of Distillers in 1987. He was released on appeal, after serving ten months, when the court was told he was suffering from pre-senile dementia.

Wembley Stadium narrowly averted a potentially chaotic blunder in ticket distribution yesterday, when Leicester City and Crystal Palace received the wrong allocations for their Endsleigh Insurance League first division play-off final on May 27.

Leicester were sent Palace's tickets and Palace sent Leicester's, before the mistake was noticed and the clubs informed.

Arthurson has conflicting messages for Wigan pair

By Christopher Irvine

THE Australian Rugby League (ARL) has denied that it would stop the Wigan pair of Gary Connolly and Jason Robinson from appearing for England in the European championship next month. Meanwhile, its call yesterday for a restoration of playing relations was ignored by the Rugby Football League (RFL), which is aligned to the World Super League.

Connolly and Robinson have deals to play for the ARL when their contracts at Wigan expire. Maurice Lindsay, the RFL chief executive, accused Ken Arthurson, the ARL chairman, of being misleading. "In *The Australian* he says Robinson and Connolly would not be allowed to play for England, and, yet, he is telling people over here there is a chance they could," he said.

Super League's court appeal against a ban in Australia until 2000 starts next Thursday. Arthurson, who led the fight against the Super League, wants Australia restored to Great Britain's tour itinerary in October. However, the only Australian teams Britain might play, in the event of victory in the appeals case, would belong to the Super League.

In the European Super League, Leeds and Halifax Blue Sox meet in lean and troubled circumstances at Headingley tomorrow, four months after their respective second and third-place finished in the centenary championship. Halifax, without a win in seven matches, are one place off the bottom, and Leeds, slowly recovering from a dire start, are the team perched precariously above them.

Connolly: hoping

Leeds have an excuse in that youth has been forced along early to make up for the loss of high-calibre players. Halifax's team is substantially the one Steve Simms guided to a healthy position last season, and the one from which their Australian coach was seeking another top-three place.

Simms saw his side narrowly lose out on six occasions, before a draw at bottom-placed Workington. Even in a heavy defeat by Wigan in midweek, Halifax's attacking flair belied a record that is now putting Simms's position at risk.

"Certain things are going against us in matches, which I can't explain. These aren't excuses," Simms said. "We have the players to get us out of trouble. Graeme Hallas caused havoc in the first half against Wigan, and John Bentley certainly looks to be back at his best."

The fact that Halifax have won once at Headingley in nine years, fatigue from the Wigan game and their opponents' two victories in three outings combine to favour Leeds, even though last time at home, Leeds blew an 18-point lead to London Broncos.

Dean Bell, the Leeds coach, said: "They are a desperate team badly in need of two points, like ourselves. But, after winning in Paris last week, we are confident."

Although only 19, Francis Cummins will make his hundredth appearance for Leeds. He has scored 60 tries and 48 goals since his debut in 1993. He has played in every position in the backs. Dean Clark, the New Zealand scrum half, whose impact as a substitute in Paris was considerable, makes his full debut in an otherwise unchanged line-up.

Workington have the dubious pleasure of Wigan's company at Derwent Park tonight. The champions are again without the injured Scott Quinnell and Kelvin Skerrett. Henry Paul and Neil Cowie face late fitness checks.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Chicago 13 Houston 1, San Diego 3 New York 6; Los Angeles 8 Philadelphia 2.

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Milwaukee 3 Chicago 2; Minnesota 4 Toronto 1; Cleveland 8 Detroit 3.

BADMINTON

HONG KONG: Uber Cup: Group B: England 3 Hong Kong 2 (England names first). J Muggeridge lost to Ng Ching 11-9, 7-11, 4-11; J Davies and E Chalfin lost to Chan Oi-ni and Chan Mei-mei 10-15, 16-17; J Mann bt Koon Wai-chee 11-8, 11-4; Muggeridge and G Gowers bt Ng and Tung Chau-man 3-15, 17-14, 15-4; A Humby bt Chan Mei-mei 12-9, 11-4. South Korea 3 Denmark 2

Thomas Cup: Group A: Indonesia 3 China 2; Sweden 4 England 1 (Sweden names first): J Olsson bt D Hall 15-10, 15-9; P-G Jonsson and P Axelsson bt N Robertson and J Robertson 13-15, 15-8, 15-6; R Magnusson bt P Knowles 15-5, 15-4; J Tholinsson and H Andersson lost to C Hunt and J Anderson 15-8, 12-15, 5-15; Olsson bt P Bush 17-15, 10-15, 15-10. Group B: South Korea 3 Malaysia 2; Denmark 5 Hong Kong 0

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Play-off: Semi-final: Western Conference: Utah 108 San Antonio 81 (Utah win best-of-seven series 4-2).

BOXING

DUNSTABLE: Lightweight (8 rounds): Billy Schwer (Luton) bt Gareth Jordan (Monmouth) rsc 3rd rnd. Super-featherweight (6 rounds): Alan Bosworth (Northampton) bt Yifru Retta (Docklands) pts. Light-welterweight (6 rounds): Roger Hunte (Leyton) bt Paul Salmon (Plymouth) rsc 5th rnd. Welterweight (6 rounds): Marty Duke (Yarmouth) bt Paul Webb (Nuneaton) pts. Light-welterweight (6 rounds): John Hamson (Devon) bt Dave Fallon (Watford) rsc 4th rnd

CRICKET

BAIN HOGG TROPHY: Uxbridge: Leicestershire 279-9 (J M Dakin 81) Middlesex 212 (K P Dutch 56, A G Norman 52no). Leicestershire won by 67 runs.

SCHOOLS MATCH: *Ipswich 258-7 (G McCartney 102 not out), Gentlemen of Suffolk 246 (*denotes home team).

CROQUET

CHELTENHAM CHAMPIONSHIP: Men: First round: D J Magee bt R S Jenkins +11, -5, +23; R Tribe bt J W Soloman +4, +25; D Harrison-Wood bt D J Kibble +4, +11; P Dey bt P C Trimmer +14, +12; D J Goacher bt A S Le Moignan +24tp, -26, +4; S Cornish bt C N Williams +15, +25tp; D L Gaunt bt C J Patmore +9, -10, +17; A T R Leggate bt R W Ransome +8, +1; P Cordingley bt A Gregory -24tp, +26tp, +13. Second round: Cornish bt Gaunt +14tp, +13; E T Duckworth bt Leggate +8, +17; L G Tibble bt Cordingley +4, +16. Women: First round: P V Healey bt R Gugen -23, +8, +18.

FOOTBALL

TEHRAN: International: Iran 2 Qatar 0.

Thursday's late football

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Play-off, second leg: Dundee Utd 2 Partick Thistle 1 (aet; 1-1 after 90min; Dundee Utd won 3-2 on agg).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: Second division: Plymouth 7 Newport AFC 0

ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier Division: Knowle 1 Massey Ferguson 1, West Midland Fire Service 2 Upton Town 1

DUTCH CUP: PSV Eindhoven 5 Sparta Rotterdam 2.

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: São Paulo championship: America 1 XV de Jau 0; Botafogo 2 Aracatuba 1; Mogi Mirim 1 Uniao São Joao 1, Novorizontino 2 Juventus 1; São Paulo 2 Ferroviana 0. Copa Brasil: Quarter-final, second leg: Parana 1 Palmeiras 3 (Palmeiras win 5-1 on agg). Flamengo 3 Internacional 1 (Flamengo win 5-4 on agg)

GOLF

THAME: Benson and Hedges International Open: Early second round scores: (GB and Ire unless stated): 138: M A Jiménez (Sp) 68, 70. 140: J Robson 70, 70; C Montgomerie 72, 68; B Langer (Ger) 69, 71. 141: R Rafferty 70, 71. 142: W Westner (SA) 72, 70; I Woosnam 72, 70; H Clark 69, 73; R Drummond 73, 69; P Lawrie 71, 71. 143: S Cage 73, 70; E Canonica (It) 70, 73; S Torrance 71, 72; N Faldo 70, 73; P Baker 69, 74. 144: M Mackenzie 72, 72; O Karlsson (Swe) 72, 72; S Ames (Trin) 73, 71; P Linhart (Sp) 71, 73; W Riley (Aus) 73, 71. 145: J Spence 72, 73; P Fulke (Swe) 74, 71. 146: J Van de Velde (Fr) 69, 77; R Allenby (Aus) 74, 72; M Farry (Fr) 78, 68; F Lindgren (Swe) 74, 72; D Carter 73, 73; F Tarnaud (Fr) 75, 71; A Hunter 73, 73; F Nobilo (NZ) 75, 71. 147: L Westwood 74, 73; J Hawkes (SA) 76, 71; P Hedblom (Swe) 76, 71; J Bickerton 74, 73; S Field 74, 73; K Eriksson (Swe) 73, 74; G Orr 73, 74; G Turner (NZ) 72, 75; M Lanner (Swe) 75, 72; P Eales 74, 73; S Lyle 74, 73; R Chapman 71, 76; E Romero (Arg) 75, 72. 148: J Rivero (Sp) 75, 73; M Harwood (Aus) 73, 75; F Valera (Sp) 72, 76; S Ballesteros (Sp) 75, 73; B Lane 76, 72; T Planchin (Fr) 74, 74; G Evans 75, 73; T Spence 74, 74; A Sherborne 72, 76; M Mouland 72, 76. 149: R Claydon 77, 72; A Oldcorn 74, 75; J M Cañizares (Sp) 74, 75; E Bolognesi (It) 79, 70; P Broadhurst 73, 76; M Jonzon (Swe) 77, 72; M James 79, 70; D Feherty 76, 73; D A Russell 76, 73; M Roe 74, 75; E Darcy 73, 76; J Townsend (US) 75, 74; M McNulty (Zim) 75, 74. 150: N Briggs 74, 76; R Willison 75, 75; S Tinning (Den) 77, 73; G Brand Jnr 77, 73; D Clarke 76, 74; P O'Malley (Aus) 76, 74; J Payne 72, 78; P Walton 76, 74; C Cevaer (Fr) 77, 73. 151: P Curry 75, 76; C Rocca (It) 76, 75; R Davis (Aus) 81, 70; J Lomas 74, 77; S Struver (Ger) 75, 76

FORT WORTH, Texas: MasterCard Colonial tournament: (US unless stated): First round: 66: O Uresti, W Levi, J Gallagher. 67: S Jones, E Aubrey. 68: K Triplett, J Furyk, N Henke, B Ogle (Aus), T Kite, J Kelly, R Mediate, C Stradler, M McCumber. 69: N Price (Zim), D Duval, M Hemen, J Sluman, J Huston, C Pavin, F Zoeller, P Stewart, T Purtzer.

SANDWICH: English Open Amateur strokeplay championship: Early first round scores: (GB and Ire unless stated): 69: B Taylor, M King. 71: S Allan (Aus), P Fenton, K Walbank, O David (Fr). 72: A Campbell, G Boardman. 73: M James, C Duke, R McGurk, J Lara (Sp), M Brooks, N Swatfield. 74: G Hamerton, B Toone, N Parkinson, I Ellis, J Roberts, J Rose, A Fonhol (Holl), R Evraud (Fra), A Sako (Spain), R Wiggins, C Stewart. 75: N Emmerson, I Hardy, J Carter, G Clark, R Binney. 76: M Searle, P Streeter, Y El Hassani (Mor), G Wolstenholme, I Bishop, R Secular, R Goodey, R Blexhill, C Richardson. 77: I Richardson, R Dee, M Smith, S Little, N Smith, S Downton, P Casey, K Ferrie, T Ryder, P Drew, Y Taylor, J Appleyard. 78: R Oldaker, D Whittaker, A Wainwright, J De Polo (Fr), R Groelfin (Switz), J Donaldson, J Chevalier (Fr). 79: S Dixon, G Ogilvy, C Banks, M Peel, D Dupin (Fr), D Kirton, B Slater, C Kirby. 80: M Foster, C Edwards, R Paolillo (It), G Jenkins, A Pickering, B Mason, M Reynard. 81: B Mallinson, W Sargent, J Marks, C Goodfellow. 82: A Kradl (Switz), C Gibb (US), I Goroneskoul (Fr), R Buxton, M Wharton. 83: N Kraay (Holl), S Garcia (Sp). 84: M Galwey. 87: C Rooke. 88: M Baily

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Stanley Cup: Play-off: Semi-final: Western Conference: Detroit 1 St Louis 0 (OT2) (Detroit win best-of-seven series 4-3)

MOTOR RACING

MONTE CARLO: Leading free practice times for Monaco Grand Prix: 1, M Hakkinen (Fin), McLaren 1min 23.762secs; 2, D Hill (GB), Williams 1:23.801; 3, D Coulthard (GB), McLaren 1:23.850; 4, R Barrichello (Br), Jordan 1:23.976; 5, J Alesi (Fr), Benetton 1:24.160; 6, O Panis (Fr), Ligier 1:24.167; 7, J Villeneuve (Can), Williams 1:24.257; 8, M Brundle (GB), Jordan 1:24.270; 9, G Berger (Austria), Benetton 1:24.285; 10, H-H Frentzen (Ger), Sauber 1:24.585; 11, M Schumacher (Ger), Ferrari 1:24.757; 12, J Verstappen (Hol), Footwork 1:25.112; 13, U Katayama (Jap), Tyrrell 1:25.322; 14, G Fisichella (It), Minardi 1:25.328; 15, P Lamy (Por), Minardi 1:25.441

REAL TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB, London: Laurent-Perrier Masters Championship: Group matches: C Bray (GB) bt J Male (GB) 6-5, 6-2, 6-5; L Deuchar (Aus) bt R Fahey (Aus) 3-6, 6-5, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4; W Davies (Aus) bt N Wood (GB) 6-4, 6-2, 6-5; M Gooding (GB) bt J Snow (GB) 6-5, 6-3, 3-6, 6-2

SAILING

BRUT ROYAL LYMINGTON CUP: Semi-finals: R Coutts (NZ) bt E Baird (US) 3-0; C Law (GB) bt P Holmberg (US) 3-2

SQUASH

CAIRO: Al Ahram International: First round: Jansher Khan (Pak) bt T Hands (Eng) 15-9, 15-11, 15-7; C Rowland (Aus) bt Zubair Jehan (Pak) 11-15, 15-13, 8-15, 15-11, 15-7; D Ryan (Ire) bt P Johnson (Eng) 15-13, 5-15, 15-11, 7-15, 15-10; S Parke (Eng) bt K El Mistikawi (Egy) 15-10, 15-13, 15-12; M Heath (Sco) bt A Hill (Aus) 15-6, 15-8, 15-5; M Cairns (Eng) bt R Durbach (SA) 15-10, 15-9, 15-7; J Nicolle (Eng) bt A Shabena (Egy) 15-13, 15-11, 15-10; B Martin (Aus) bt A Gough (Wales) 15-3, 15-6, 10-15, 15-11; J Power (Can) bt D Jenson (Aus) 15-13, 15-8, 15-11; C Walker (Eng) bt D Evans (Wales) 15-8, 17-15, 15-9

TENNIS

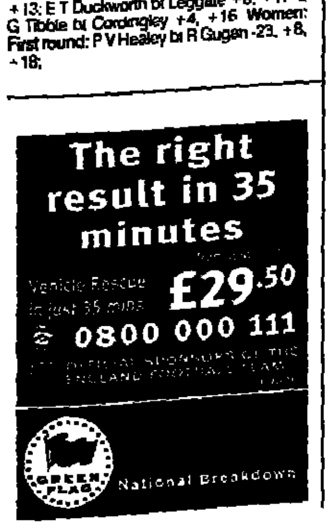
CORAL SPRINGS, Florida: Men's tournament (US unless stated): Second round: R Fromberg (Aus) bt M Woodforde (Aus) 6-4, 6-7, 6-4; J Frana (Arg) bt P Rafter (Aus) 6-4, 6-2; M Tebbutt (Aus) bt F Mantilla (Sp) 6-4, 4-6, 7-6; C Woodruff bt J A Morejon (Ec) 6-4, 3-6, 6-1

ROME: Men's tournament: Third round: A Gaudenzi (It) bt T Enqvist (Swe) 6-2, 7-6; R Krajicek (Holl) bt M Philippoussis (Aus) 6-4, 6-4. Quarter-finals: W Ferreira (SA) bt A Medvedev (Ukr) 6-4, 6-4; A Costa (Sp) bt Gaudenzi 6-2, 6-1; Krajicek bt S Edberg (Swe) 6-3, 6-3

BERLIN: Women's tournament: Third round: B Paulus (Austria) bt J Wiesner (Austria) 6-3, 6-4; K Habsudova (Slovakia) bt M Pierce (Fr) 7-6, 6-2, 7-6. Quarter-finals: S Graf (Ger) bt N Tauziat (Fr) 6-1, 7-5; Habsudova bt A Huber (Ger) 6-4, 6-1; E Likhovtseva (Russ) bt A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) 6-3, 2-6, 6-0; I Majoli (Cr) bt Paulus 6-3, 3-6, 6-3

CARDIFF: Men's tournament: Semi-finals: T Schiessling (Austria) bt O Burrieza (Sp) 6-1, 6-4; F Dondo (Uru) bt W Treu (Austria) 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Women's international: Second round: N Kijimuta (Japan) bt M Tu (US) 6-1, 6-2; A Fusai (Fr) bt M Vannuzova (San Marino) 6-3, 6-7, 6-3; D Van Roost (Bel) bt P Suarez (Arg) 6-0, 6-1; M Oremans (Holl) bt S Jeyaseelan (Can) 6-0, 6-2; M de Swardt (SA) bt S Pitkowski (Fr) 6-3, 6-2; H Nagyova (Slovakia) bt M Mazzotta 6-2, 6-3; L Courtois (Bel) bt K Radford (Aus) 6-2, 6-4; P Hy-Boulais (Can) bt E Callens (Bel) 6-3, 6-1. Quarter-finals: Nagyova bt Kijimuta 7-6, 7-5; Hy-Boulais bt de Swardt 6-2, 6-3; L Courtois (Bel) bt A Fusai (Fr) 6-1, 6-3; Van Roost bt Oremans 6-3, 6-3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GREEN FLAG

National Breakdown

McIlroy in pursuit of fresh glory

By Walter Gammie

SAMMY McILROY leads out Macclesfield Town at Wembley tomorrow seeking to complete a full set of non-League domestic honours by winning the FA Umbro Trophy in an all-Cheshire, all-Vauxhall Conference final against Northwich Victoria.

Two seasons ago McIlroy guided Macclesfield to the Conference's league cup, last season they won the Conference and now they stand on the threshold of bringing the club the Trophy for the second time.

McIlroy, of course, knows Wembley well. "I've had joy there, I've lost there as well," he said. "It's always a great place to go. I played three cup finals with Manchester United and international matches there with Northern Ireland and it will be a proud moment to lead the team out there."

McIlroy started his managerial career at Northwich and has in his side Phil Power, a substitute for Northwich at the age of 17 in the side that won the Trophy in 1984, by beating Bangor City in a replay, and Tony Hemmings, for whom Northwich received their record fee of £25,000 when he moved to Wycombe Wanderers in 1983.

McIlroy is anxious that Cec Edey, a defender, comes though intensive treatment on an ankle injury. Kevin Hulme, the midfield player, is struggling with a hamstring strain. "I think we did well to pick up only two injuries after we finished the Conference season by playing nine games in 16 days," McIlroy said. "It was ludicrous. Horses don't run that often."

Northwich finished with a similarly intensive run of eight matches in 15 days in a season in which they played 20 senior cup-ties. Reaching Wembley relaxed Brian Kettle's team into playing its best football and the forward line, led by the experienced Delwyn Humphreys and also including the youthful Carwyn Williams, Ian Cooke and Darren Vicary, promises much.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Parke enjoys victory on return to action

SIMON PARKE safely negotiated his return to competition yesterday when he defeated Karim El Mistikawi, the Egyptian junior champion, 15-10, 15-13, 15-12 in the first round of the Al Ahram International at the National Squash Stadium in Cairo (Colin McQuillan writes). "It was more testing than I expected," Parke said. He had not played since December after undergoing emergency surgery and chemotherapy for testicular cancer.

"I am not completely fit, but I wanted to see how I shaped up in a tournament before starting a hard summer of training. Perhaps I didn't calculate the amount of nervous energy it takes to play a local hero in front of his home crowd." Parke meets Derek Ryan, the Irish champion, in the second round.

England fall to defeat

BADMINTON: A winning Thomas Cup debut for James Anderson, 22, with his doubles partner, Chris Hunt, could not prevent England's men from slipping to a 4-1 defeat to Sweden in the world team finals in Hong Kong yesterday. As England have to face the two strongest nations in their group, China and Indonesia, the defeat ended any realistic hopes of snatching a victory in the tournament.

Coutts secures final berth

SAILING: Russell Coutts, a former world match-racing champion and winning helmsman in the last America's Cup, brushed aside the challenge of the world champion, Ed Baird, by securing three straight wins on the Solent yesterday to move into today's final of the Lymington Cup. The New Zealander will meet Chris Law, of Britain, who scraped through against Peter Holmberg, of the US Virgin Islands.

British men progress

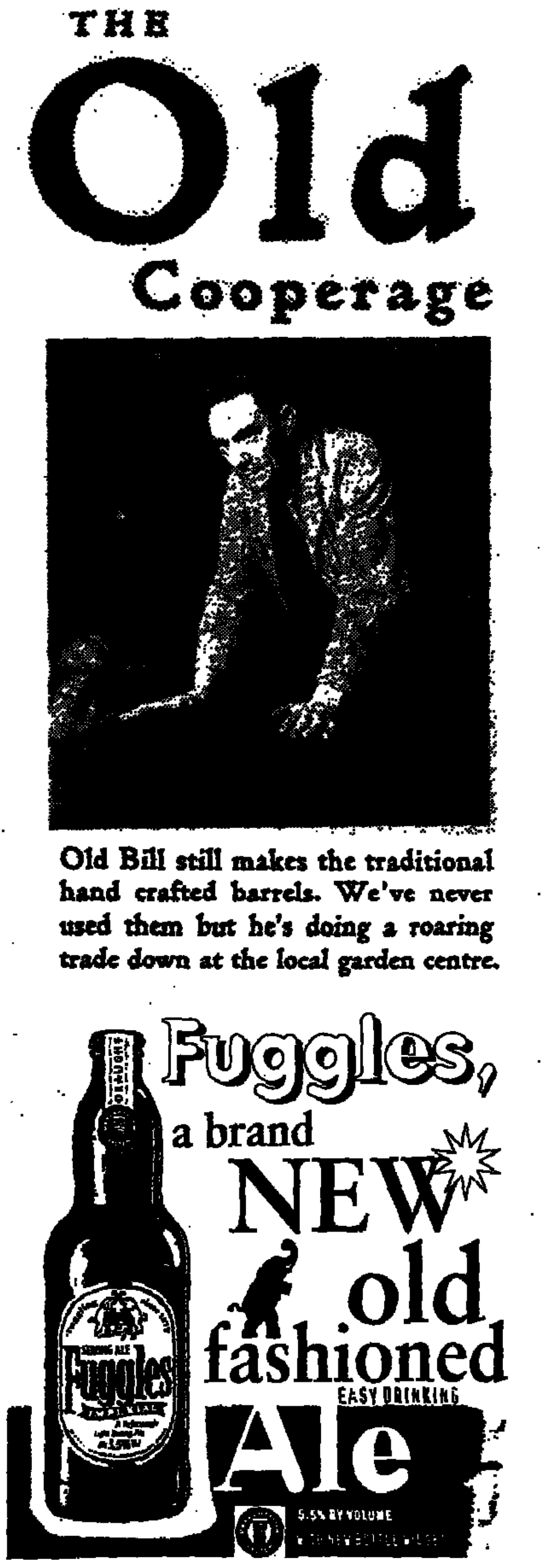
JUDO: The Great Britain men's team made up for their poor performance in the European championships at The Hague on Thursday by getting all three players through to the semi-finals yesterday. Danny Kingston (under-71kg) won all his matches by ippon and Julian Davies (under-65kg) squeezed through, winning one match by a penalty and the other by a decision. Nigel Donohue (under-60kg) won all his matches.

Deuchar beats champion

REAL TENNIS: Lachie Deuchar, the Harbour Club professional, defeated Robert Fahey, the world champion, 3-2 in the Laurent-Perrier Masters Championship at Queen's Club, in London, to improve his chances of reaching the final stages. In the other group, Wayne Davies, the former world champion, is through as the winner.

Contenders put on trial

EQUESTRIANISM: The selectors have asked that three of the horses shortlisted for the Great Britain Olympic three-day event team should compete at the Bramham horse trials in June to prove their fitness. William Fox-Pitt's Cosmopolitan, Kristina Gifford's General Jock and Mary King's Star Appeal all missed the main Olympic trial at Badminton.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Saturday portrait: Alec Stewart, by Alan Lee, cricket correspondent

ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE MARTIN

Deputy who betrayed signs of disaffection faces day of judgment

Alec Stewart is used to being discussed at England selection meetings, though not in the way he will be this evening. For some years now, selectors have regularly debated how many roles the willing Stewart should fill in the national side; tonight, when the new selection panel convenes in Nottingham, it may ask whether he still has a role to play at all.

There are various reasons for this erosion of faith in a man whose inclusion has been automatic for almost five years. One is form, for Stewart had a poor winter even by the forlorn standards of the England team. Another is the urge to move on, to dispense with many of those associated with past failure. A third factor is that Stewart has alienated Raymond Illingworth, and Illingworth is a bad man to cross.

The statesmanlike traditions of Illingworth's position as chairman of selectors have not greatly altered or inconvenienced him. He never was one for concealing his inner feelings and his transparent disaffection with Stewart was increasingly evident through the winter. Publicly, he questioned his batting; off camera, as it were, his frankness left no scope to doubt that the two were seeing very little through the same lens.

That the doubts were mutual could be gleaned from Stewart, whose frustrations over his limited brief in the World Cup, where he did not keep wicket, slipped down the batting order and, once, out of the side, were not difficult to detect. After the team had returned home and the saga of challenges to Illingworth unfolded, the chairman identified Stewart as one of several "insiders" who had militated against him.

The truth and extent of this perceived betrayal is a matter for the two men to resolve and, to some degree, they have done so. Encouraged by at least one other selector and aided by Illingworth's instinct to confront those with whom he has a grouse, the pair have met for what, in a football environment, would be labelled "clear the air talks".

This will probably facilitate the chairman's endorsement of Stewart's inclusion for the Texaco Trophy games against India next week, though largely as a wicketkeeper who will extend the batting. His Test place, which must be earned by batting alone, is a different matter. Illingworth may be ready for a conciliatory compromise but he is not one to change his views overnight and there are others who have a selectorial say with deep reservations over Stewart's continuing right to play.

His past 17 Test innings have yielded only 421 runs and one half-century. It is two years since he made a Test century. Too lean, for too long. Statistics aside, the evidence of the eyes discourages confidence, for, throughout the winter's cricket, Stewart's usually instinctive footwork was laboured, rendering his technique awkward and his trademark, back-foot strokes hazardous.

> 'To speak to him now is to hear a man desperate to leave his mark before it is too late'

Between tours, he sought help from outside the England hierarchy, consulting Geoff Arnold, the former Surrey bowler who has been his trusted coach for 14 years. He may also have talked to Geoffrey Boycott, a regular confidant, but although Stewart claims his problem was minor, many have yet to be convinced he can regain the fluency of old.

He will think back wistfully to 1994. This was Stewart's year, the year when he convinced the doubters that he was a batsman of rare ability, the year when he might easily have acceded to the England captaincy if Michael Atherton had allowed himself to be hounded out of office by the spurious charges of ball-tampering and the self-inflicted loss of dignity.

Stewart was bestriding the cricket stage, the memory of his two centuries in the Test victory in Barbados fresh and beguiling. There is now a suspicion that, at 33, his time will not come again, that while Atherton has reimposed himself, Stewart's stature has diminished. His epitaph is increasingly likely to be that of a man whose loftier ambitions were unfulfilled, a player who flattered but, by the harshest judgment, failed.

He feels it himself. To speak to Stewart now is to hear a man desperate to leave his mark before it is too late. "I have not won anything in cricket," he said. "It is time I did." His frustration relates not only to his England career, in which none of the important series have been won and the personal triumphs have merely brought consolation, but also to county cricket with Surrey, where he has nothing tangible to show for 12 years as a capped player and five as captain.

This latter omission troubles him, perhaps not least because he is constantly being reminded of Surrey's domination of the 1950s, when they won the county championship seven years in succession. At the heart of the monopoly was Alec's father, Micky, inevitably the shaper of his son's style and aspirations, a mentor with the best intentions but, unwittingly, casting a broad shadow.

Micky Stewart was probably not as good a batsman as Alec and won only eight England caps. Yet he went on to captain Surrey and managed the county as his son's career began. By the time Alec broke into the England side, Micky was already there, as team manager. Nepotism played no part — father and son did not even acknowledge their relationship when in a cricket environment — but it would be only natural if the achievements of the elder weighed heavily on the younger Stewart.

Alec's mother, Sheila, was also an accomplished games-player and he was raised to be intensely competitive, something that has never left him. He hates getting out, even in a benefit game, and his education in Australian grade cricket contributes to a belief that what is said to the opposition on the field need not be cordial. In his early Test matches, he had too much to say and said it too aggressively for English tastes.

By contrast, he was also raised to be dapper and to be a diplomat. He is immaculately groomed, on and off the field, and unfailingly approachable in a way that endears him to public and media. This is the stuff of a role model, the acceptable image of modern cricket. Stewart has a personality that is instantly attractive and yet, by his own self-deprecating admission, lacking depth.

His dress sense seems almost too perfect and his interview technique, though preferred by many to the moodiness that assails Atherton, is superficial. He has conquered the art of saying nothing with style. The squeaky-clean image is not faked. Stewart hardly drinks and his touring behaviour is all that one would want of a vice-captain, tempering the excesses of others both by example and by the military bark of his sharp, south London tongue. He is not a man about whom there is ever likely to be a scandal.

Stewart gives little of himself away, even to others in his teams, but beneath the clean-cut and confident veneer there must now lurk a turbulent self-doubt, an awareness that 1996 is some kind of personal watershed. At England level, he must either restore form and faith immediately or retire to the ranks, a former player of distinction, if not honours. With Surrey, there is a similar urgency. It is now or never for Stewart and the gathering in Nottingham this evening may not be the last this season that sits in judgment on his future.

Game's elite congregate in the name of peace

By David Hands
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

IF SPORT in general, and rugby union in particular, has ever enjoyed a capacity for unification, it is in Ireland. Historically governed by one body, in times of trouble rugby has served to draw together men from both sides of the border and has offered a unique welcome to visiting teams.

Today some of those visitors take the chance to repay the debt. Inspired by the concept of helping to restore the peace initiative in Ireland, leading players have congregated in Dublin for the match at Lansdowne Road between an Ireland XV and the Barbarians.

Even those who cannot play have come. Francois Pienaar, South Africa's World Cup-winning captain, was invited to captain the Barbarians but was injured playing for Transvaal last weekend.

Similarly, David Campese, the most popular of figures with successive Australian touring sides, has limped in injured.

Hugo MacNeill, the former Ireland full back, and Trevor Ringland — once his colleague on the wing — have spent the past four weeks beating the drum for the Peace International, which will raise funds for cross-border organisations.

The match will serve a purpose in purely sporting terms, since the Ireland selectors have an opportunity to see such newcomers as James Topping and Rob Henderson matching themselves against the game's great names.

IRELAND: S Mason (Orrell); R Wallace (Garryowen), R Henderson (London Irish), J Bell (Northampton), J Topping (Ballymena); D Humphreys (London Irish), N Hogan (Terenure College, captain); H Hurley (Old Wesley), A Clarke (Northampton), A McKeen (Lansdowne), E Halvey (Saracens), G Fulcher (London Irish), J Davidson (Dungannon), D McBride (Malone), V Costello (St Mary's College).

BARBARIANS: J Callard (Bath and England); E Rush (North Harbour and New Zealand), P Sella (Agen and France), P de Glanville (Bath and England, captain), R Underwood (Leicester and England); S Bachop (Otago and New Zealand), J Roux (Transvaal and South Africa); G Rowntree (Leicester and England), R Cockerill (Leicester), D Garforth (Leicester), S Ojomoh (Bath and England), N Redman (Bath and England), O Brouzet (Grenoble and France), L Cabannes (Racing and France), D Richards (Leicester and England).

Referee: D Bevan (Wales).

England seek specialist help to improve one-day fortunes

Alan Lee forecasts a cull of familiar names by the revamped selection panel when they announce their squad for the Texaco Trophy

THE defeats and disenchantments of winter are about to claim their casualties. No more than four players can be thought certain inclusions tomorrow, when England announce their party for the Texaco Trophy series against India, and it will be no surprise if at least half the World Cup squad is cast aside.

The mood is for change and, more significantly, for a selection made specifically to suit modern one-day cricket rather than an ill-conceived trial for the Test team. Whatever happens during the three games should have little, if any, bearing on the selectors' thoughts for five-day cricket and, it seems, the new, five-man panel is in agreement on this.

Whether they will be in agreement on individual cases remains to be seen. It is my belief that the balance of the committee, albeit achieved by a farcically overblown and oversubscribed election process, is the best for many years and that its new members, Graham Gooch and David Lloyd, are certain to command respect among the players, something past selectors have not always achieved.

But there is undeniable potential for Raymond Illingworth, the chairman, to find himself in opposition to his four colleagues on certain players. If this occurs, and he then carries out his threat to overrule with his power of veto, the entire system of selection by committee will be undermined.

Illingworth's tactics promise to provide one of the fascinating sagas of summer, beginning this evening when the quintet have their initial meeting in Nottingham.

The four names that will brook no argument are those of the captain, Michael Atherton, two batsmen in Graeme Hick and Graham Thorpe and the strike bowler, Dominic Cork.

For a squad of 13, that traditionally proves plenty for this event, the selectors must identify three further batsmen, of whom one will probably be the wicketkeeper, and six more bowlers, two or three of whom bat well enough to be considered as all-rounders for one-day purposes.

Among the batsmen, there is likely to be no place for Robin Smith or Neil Fairbrother. Both have played wonderful, match-winning limited-overs innings but, at 32, they neither bat nor field as they once did. Youth will have its fling in this first selection of summer and the names most likely to hold sway are those of Alistair Brown and Matthew Maynard.

Maynard: in prime form

Brown is in irresistible form for Surrey and his ability to hit over the mandatory infielders during the first 15 overs makes him an obvious candidate to open with Atherton. At least two of the surfaces, at the Oval and Old Trafford, should be quick and true enough to suit his style and if the first game, at his Surrey headquarters on Thursday, were not already sold out, his inclusion would guarantee it.

Maynard is not in the first flush of youth — indeed he is only two years younger than Smith and Fairbrother — but he is batting as well as at any time in a slightly unfulfilled career and, strictly as a limited-overs choice, he makes sense. Nasser Hussain and Nick Knight are probable swaps for Maynard and Brown when it comes to the Test cricket.

Illingworth is thought still to favour using Jack Russell to keep wicket but the balance of the panel will surely opt for Alec Stewart, even if it is ironic that the duties that for so long compromised his game are now all that secure his England place. Again, it will be different at Edgbaston next month, when Russell must return.

One spin bowler will be included and it is unlikely to be Richard Illingworth, a disappointment in the World Cup and bowling modestly in this wind-chilled start to the season.

Neil Smith is the favourite, though he would be more tempting if his batting were likely to play a part, and I would favour an England debut for Glamorgan's talented Robert Croft.

Darren Gough can quickly be added to Cork among the seam bowlers and the final specialist place will be between Peter Martin and Mark Ilott. I prefer Ilott on variety and form.

This leaves the all-rounders and the need to perm three from five. Craig White, who began the World Cup, and Dermot Reeve, who ended it, will be challenged by Ronnie Irani, Mark Ealham and Chris Lewis.

White has long been a favourite of Illingworth, which has put him under an increasing pressure. Physically, he has shown frailties at the highest level and this must be the right time to introduce Irani, with his explosive batting, and Ealham, whose one-day record for Kent is exemplary.

Lewis will have his supporters, for the manner in which he has begun his first season with Surrey. I require further evidence yet of his renaissance and would not look beyond Reeve, who continues to exert extraordinary influence over one-day games for Warwickshire.

My XIII would be: Atherton, Brown, Hick, Thorpe, Maynard, Stewart, Irani, Ealham, Reeve, Croft, Cork, Gough, Ilott.

Marsh appointed in place of Simpson

BOBBY SIMPSON, the background force behind Australia's cricket for the past ten years, has lost his job (Alan Lee writes). Simpson, 60, has been replaced as national coach by Geoff Marsh, the former Test opening batsman, after having his request for a new two-year contract rejected by the Australian Cricket Board (ACB).

Simpson was a highly influential figure while Australia, under the captaincy of Allan Border, banished years of decline and became a power once more. His input, however, had been waning since the captaincy passed to Mark Taylor and his dismissal is no surprise. With his abrasive manner, Simpson has always polarised opinion. He had many differences with Border and eventually, perhaps, was a victim of the generation gap and changed perceptions of the game.

Simpson is on holiday in Italy and he was told of his dismissal in a telephone call from Graham Halbish, the chief executive of the ACB. "I am very disappointed," he said. "I still believe I am the best man for the job." He has been offered another, as yet unspecified, job with the board, but will take the next month to consider his options. "My wish is to maintain a connection with the game," he added.

Marsh, 37, will stand down as a Test selector to work with Taylor, his close friend and former opening partner. "I think Bob did a fantastic job and I learnt a lot from him while I was playing," he said. "But I have my own ideas and I will take them to Mark."

Australia will not play their provisionally arranged two Test matches in Sri Lanka in August, citing their busy schedule and "lingering security fears". Illogically, however, they are still considering visiting Sri Lanka for a one-day event in September.

Wicketkeeper catches up with unique double

SIMON BARNES

On Saturday

IT IS a tense battle for the award of hero of the week, but Wayne James manages to sneak it by virtue of this column's bias in favour of wicketkeepers. Was this the most extraordinary wicketkeeper's match ever played? That, at least, is the question posed in the June edition of *Wisden Cricket Monthly*. Wayne James, wicketkeeper and captain of Matabeleland against Mashonaland Country Districts in the final of the Lonrho Logan Cup in Zimbabwe, really did have a bit of a match.

James took nine catches in the first innings, equalling the record number of dismissals in an innings, set by Tahir Rashid in Pakistan four years ago. Then he scored 99 runs. He did not know that at the time; the scoreboard was not working. He took four more catches in the second innings to set a world record: 13 dismissals in a first-class match.

Mashonaland set out to bat for victory on the fourth day and James led the way. He finished with — yes, 99 not out. He was all set for glory when the bowler sent down four byes to settle the match. It is only the second time in first-class history that a player has made a pair of 99s. Still, "the main thing was we won the Logan Cup".

Points victory

Clevedon Promenade Bowls Club made a spring tour of Cornwall and played a match at 'the Lakeview Country Club, near Bodmin. The green was decorated by an important notice: "Caution: hedgehogs breeding". Players on the end rink were asked to refrain from firing — that is, sending the bowls and the jack in all directions with a high-speed chuck — so that the hedgehogs would not be disturbed. The greenkeeper, contrary to the dictates of his trade, had allowed the grass to grow long at the hedgehog corner of the green and had made a little bridge, so that the hedgehogs could travel from the green to the bank without falling in the ditch. It was a very tough ploy to overcome, but Clevedon Promenade carried the day. "Won on points," they boasted.

Running mad

Though touched off as hero of the week, I have a feeling that Islam Dzugum will stride on to claim the laurels as hero of the year. He is a marathon runner from Bosnia who has trained hard for the past four years in Sarajevo. "A lot of people thought I was mad, setting out into a war zone for a run," he said. "But running kept me sane." There were 10,000 people killed in a four-year siege of Sarajevo, but Dzugum ran on. Neither fighting, nor conscription, nor consequent duties on the front line stopped him. "I alternated the times of runs to avoid the attention of snipers," he said. "I never used the same route, but often you couldn't avoid running into trouble." He will be running for Bosnia at the Olympic Games this summer. The man is either completely mad, or else the world is.

Old master

I am delighted to point out that another hero of mine is to be honoured this week. This is A. E. J. Collins, scorer of the highest individual score in cricket, 628 not out, made in a house match between Clark's House and North Town at Clifton College in 1899. There will be an exhibition of cricket paintings by John Hawkins opening at the college tomorrow, including one of Collins. Collins's bat and the scorebook will be on show; there will be a Collins exhibition at the college on Founder's Day next weekend.

Court disorder

Mike Irvin, footballer with the Dallas Cowboys, a star of the Super Bowl, got himself into trouble over the usual things, cocaine and marijuana. The idea was that the police would be gentle with him, in exchange for information that would help them. However, Irvin did his cause no good by turning up at court in a very grand and late fashion; one that did not impress the grand jury at all. Once he arrived, he started signing autographs for court employees. Irvin then stuck his head outside the courtroom to offer doughnuts to the waiting photographers. A little later he managed to sneak out of the courtroom. He was found telephoning for a pizza.

Great Scot

I think Glasgow Rangers are going to get him myself, because they are, after all, offering him an annual salary of 5,000 million lire (about £2.1 million). Besides, Gianluca Vialli is a fan of Scotland, believe it or not. Chelsea, reports say, have offered the Juventus footballer 3,500 million lire a year, but Vialli has said he will be cheering for Scotland during the European championship, since he refuses to play for Italy — well, it's all over bar the signing.

مكتبة الاهل

Uphill task in prospect for Durham batsmen

By Michael Henderson

CHESTER-LE-STREET (second day of four): Yorkshire, with three second-innings wickets in hand, are 269 runs ahead of Durham.

DURHAM fought back hard in the last session yesterday but, on a pitch of variable bounce, Yorkshire should win this match some time today, weather permitting. They have added a further 149 to a first-innings lead of 120 and, given Durham's shortcomings with the bat, they will be happy with their advantage.

Brown bowled Durham back into contention last night, taking five of the seven wickets to fall. Jolly well he bowled, too. Alex Morris and Hartley resisted towards the end and, if Yorkshire carry their lead beyond 300, Durham will have to show more gumption than they did in their first innings, when John Morris alone provided an innings of substance.

Morris and Daley, picking up in the morning with Durham on 19 for three, carried their partnership to 68 before Silverwood had Daley caught at second slip. When Longley and Collingwood failed, Durham were 102 for six, needing another 84 runs to avoid the follow-on. Collingwood's wicket went to Alex Morris, 19, an all-rounder who bats left-handed and bowls right. It was his first success in the championship.

From the other end, the Durham Morris surveyed the comings and goings with some detachment. Every Morris innings brings with it a certain sadness because, when he is making runs in that attractive manner, the feeling persists that he should have enjoyed a lengthy Test career. One of these days even he, carefree chap that he is, might regret the way he dispensed his enviable gifts with the gladdest of hands.

Two strokes to the cover boundary off Gough belonged to a man whose talent sets him apart from others. First he smashed him in front of point after rocking on to his back foot. Then he pierced extra cover with a glorious front-foot drive that lacked nothing for power or elegance, making Gough look an ordinary Joe.

For much of the day, that is what Gough was. He generated some pace but his direction was so poor that the batsmen rarely had to defend their stumps, and he never appeared entirely happy with the fields that he was given. As Byas could have told him, there is not a lot the captain can do when his leading man bowls both sides of the wicket. Hartley, who added two wickets to the couple he earned on the first day, probed more constantly, and Silverwood succeeded him to good effect.

Durham were within six runs of avoiding the follow-on when Morris went for 83, caught with some nonchalance by Gough off his own bowling. The ball stuck as he held out his right hand instinctively and, after taking a second or two to contemplate this unusual dismissal, Morris departed. Brown, striking the ball cleanly, made a brisk 28 before he was bowled, heaving at Gough, and, when the innings ended, Durham were 120 behind.

Yorkshire's second innings, like their first, began humbly. Vaughan was leg-before to his first ball and Byas played on in the next over. Before Brown completed his opening spell, he had McGrath caught at cover, where Daley held the ball after a spot of juggling, and, if Boiling, at gully, had taken a chance Bevan offered on 18, Foster would have taken an important wicket.

Bevan failed to see the day through. After White was caught behind, the Australian was leg-before to Brown, who then had Blakey and Gough caught at the wicket. Brown has taken nine wickets, and Scott held ten catches, two short of equalling the world record for dismissals in a match, and still Durham are on the wrong end of it.

☐ David Hemp, who suffered three cracked ribs in a collision with Hugh Morris, his Glamorgan team-mate, while fielding at Cambridge last month, could be playing again within two weeks.

WILL WALKER

Blakey, the Yorkshire wicketkeeper, watches as Brown, of Durham, sends Hartley for four

Tendulkar makes his case

By Ivo Tennant

HOVE (second day of three): Sussex, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 91 runs ahead of the Indians

COMPARISONS between sportsmen can be irrelevant, even odious. For Sachin Tendulkar, they are inescapable. Bowlers as well as spectators want to judge this summer if he really is as good a batsman as Brian Lara, his great West Indian counterpart. Those present yesterday, when he made 85 off 72 balls in partnership with Sanjay Manjrekar, saw for themselves just how gifted he is.

Both these Indians are in form, Tendulkar having made an unbeaten century followed by 52 in his only previous innings on tour, and Manjrekar collecting some runs at Bristol after a sluggish start. The ball came on to the bat yesterday, which naturally suited both of them. It was to the liking, too, of another markedly thin crowd.

The pick of the bowlers was Jarvis, who, bowling down the slope, was decidedly quick when he chose to be. It is hard to imagine, given he is almost 31, that his career will be considered anything other than unfulfilled, but he is still quite capable of troubling decent batsmen. Sidhu was taken at short leg fending the ball off his chest.

Lewry bowled Jadeja, pushing forward, whereupon Tendulkar joined Manjrekar. Their partnership, 133 off 31 overs, was full of wristy drives and, in the case of the captain, some cocksure strokeplay towards the end of his innings, which included 15 fours and a six. Poor Phillips, whose off spin has been roughly dealt with in recent weeks, was swung for four, six and four in successive balls by Tendulkar, each a lovely, controlled shot.

Phillips did then have him caught at long-on, the ball not clearing the boundary after coming off the bottom of the bat. The Indians declared 62 runs behind in the hope of bringing about a positive result today, but they were not helped by the weather. There were five stoppages for bad light during the afternoon.

Sussex declared their first innings when Speight was bowled after an hour's play in the morning. Athey, who had made 74 overnight, added just six more runs and Wells was beaten by Hirwani's googly. Looking to bolster their staff, the club yesterday announced that they have signed Toby Radford, a Middlesex opening batsman, on a two-year contract. At 25, he is understandably keen to have more first-team opportunities.

Benjamin's antics sour team effort

By Pat Gibson

EDGBASTON (second day of four): Hampshire have a first-innings lead of 82 over Warwickshire

IF WINSTON BENJAMIN, who has played in 21 Test matches, was half as professional a cricketer as Cardigan Connor, who has not played in any, Hampshire would be even further down the road towards one of the more unlikely championship victories of the season.

While Connor was taking full advantage of an awkward pitch on which some balls hardly bounced at all to send Warwickshire tumbling to 192 all out, their lowest championship total at Edgbaston in four seasons, Benjamin was indulging in the kind of petulance that led to his banishment from the West Indies tour last summer.

It was all so unnecessary. Connor had already confirmed that Hampshire's first innings total of 274 was more substantial than it looked by picking up two wickets in his first over, Knight leg-before to a ball which kept cruelly low, Ostler bowled off stump misjudging the line, when Benjamin let the side down.

He had just had an leg-before appeal against Penney turned down when he had another shout against Khan, who seemed to be hit on the arm guard as he tried to pull. When umpire White rejected that one, Benjamin stood sulkily in the middle of the pitch before gesturing to a spectator who advised him to get on with the game.

White then spoke to Raj Maru, Hampshire's acting captain, but the childishness continued when Benjamin pointedly refused to have anything more to do with the umpire, preferring to keep his sweaters on to bowl and tucking his cap in his waistband. Needless to say he was not much use to Hampshire in that mood.

Hampshire, who had gone into the match without their captain, Stephenson, had lost his deputy, Smith, who was having a second X-ray last night after suffering a suspected broken finger while batting against Pollock.

Maru picked up the third wicket himself when he had Khan leg-before and although Penney, Reeve, and Pollock all got into the 40s in their contrasting styles, Connor, maintaining an admirable line and length, undermined them with five for 57. James lent gallant support while Benjamin kept his hands in his pockets.

Stubborn Harden in control

BRISTOL (second day of four): Somerset, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 132 runs behind Gloucestershire

RAIN and bad light restricted play to two hours yesterday, in which time Somerset progressed from 53 for two to 131 for four in reply to Gloucestershire's 263 (Simon Wilde writes). If the weather permits a resumption this morning, the match remains evenly poised.

Most of the action took place in the morning, when Somerset might have found life considerably more uncomfortable had Walsh, their perennial scourge, not inexplicably held himself back until 40 minutes into the day.

Once into the fray, he quickly caused problems and in his third over produced an excellent outswinger to have Lathwell, on 49, well caught by Davis at second slip.

Somerset's hopes of a lead rest with Harden, who played himself in with care and is unbeaten on 53. Holloway perished attempting a single to Symonds at cover. He will know better next time.

Marsh continues to make Essex toil

By Jack Bailey

ILFORD (second day of four): Essex, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 520 runs behind Kent

WINNING the toss has been more of a boon for Kent than anyone can have imagined. On the one hand, it has meant that all but the two batsmen could huddle for warmth in the pavilion while Essex froze in the field; on the other, it enabled them to occupy the crease for the best part of two days and run up a total of 590 before putting Essex under the cosh during the day's final 31 overs.

It must be said that Kent made the most of their good fortune. After Hooper on Thursday, two more of their number cashed in handsomely. The day had barely begun, half an hour later than scheduled, before Graham Cowdrey was chalking up the third century of his career against Essex, his sixteenth in all.

This was duly followed by a career-best 127 from Steve Marsh, who featured large in a partnership of 150 in 33 overs for the seventh wicket with Julian Thompson, of which the houseman from the Royal Berkshire Hospital contributed 29 thoughtful runs. There was an air of inevitability about proceedings as Essex toiled and Kent made hay, although no sun was to be seen. There was time enough, though, for Hooper to make an impression with the ball, and for Graham Gooch to lift Essex hearts with an undefeated 45.

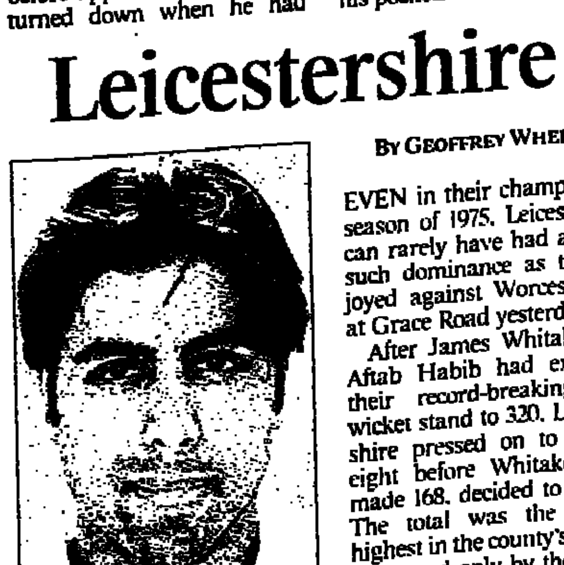
On a day as bad for bowlers as it was for sales at the ice-cream van behind the sightscreen, Essex stuck to their task in the face of Kent's onslaught. To the fore in the Essex attack was the lugubrious Peter Such. He alone cost fewer than three runs an over throughout Kent's innings, tying the batsmen down throughout yesterday morning while bowling 21 overs on the trot for only 45 runs.

Despite a recent diet of antibiotics and a hacking cough, plainly audible as he retired to the third-man boundary between overs, Such performed as manfully yesterday as he had on the first day.

There had been hope then, now there was comparatively little; but he wheeled away, bowled more than 50 overs of flighted off spin, picked up five wickets and served a courageous spell as nightwatchman before returning, one hoped, for a hot toddy and a very early night.

Leicestershire make Worcestershire suffer

By Geoffrey Wheeler



Habib: double-century

EVEN in their championship season of 1975, Leicestershire can rarely have had a day of such dominance as they enjoyed against Worcestershire at Grace Road yesterday.

After James Whitaker and Aftab Habib had expanded their record-breaking fifth-wicket stand to 320, Leicestershire pressed on to 638 for eight before Whitaker, who made 168, decided to declare. The total was the second-highest in the county's history, surpassed only by the 701 for four, also against Worcestershire, in 1906.

Habib, a novice at this level, reached 215 before he was run out after batting for just over six hours and striking 32 fours and two sixes from the 322 balls he received. Five bowlers conceded over a hundred runs for Worcestershire, who needed either Hick or Moody, or preferably both, to play a big innings.

They managed only nine runs between them as Millns and Mullally swept aside the top-order players. There was no way back from 73 for six and Worcestershire, dismissed for 155, followed on 483 in arrears.

"We have made an encouraging start to the season and with young players like Habib coming through and our pace bowlers performing well I don't think we can be ruled out as championship contenders," Jack Birkenshaw, the Leicestershire manager, said.

Lancashire, by contrast, made a sturdy response to Nottinghamshire's 452 at Trent Bridge. Although Atherton went cheaply, substantial contributions from Gallian and Crawley saw them to 237 for three. Gallian helped keep the Nottinghamshire score within bounds by dismissing Johnson for 63 and then struck 16 fours in an innings of 94, adding 142 with Crawley who played some rousing strokes in his 77.

Colin Wells reached 165, his highest championship score since leaving Sussex in 1994, as Derbyshire batted on to make 464 on a rain-shortened second day at Cardiff. Wells hit a six and 23 fours before he was seventh out, one of four wickets for Gary Butcher at a cost of 28 runs.

Gul Khan, of Oxford University, was dismissed in the 90s for the second time this season, falling six short of a maiden century as the university scored 258 for seven against Northamptonshire.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Tetley's Challenge Series

Sussex v Indians

HOVE (second day of three): Sussex, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 91 runs ahead of the Indians

SUSSEX: First Innings

C W J Athey lbw b Ganguly	80
K Greenfield b Tendulkar	65
M P Speight b Hirwani	46
*A P Wells b Hirwani	1
N J Lenham not out	8
Extras (b 1, lb 5, w 1, nb 40)	47
Total (4 wkts dec)	247

D R C Law, †P Moores, J D Lewry, N C Phillips, P W Jarvis and E S H Giddins did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-154, 2-205, 3-206, 4-247

BOWLING: Srinath 12-7-26-0; Mhambrey 7-1-34-0, Ganguly 12-1-70-1; Joshi 13-2-33-0; Hirwani 10 4-4-21-2; Venkatapathy Raju 13-3-19-0; Tendulkar 9-1-28-1; Jadeja 3-0-10-0

Second Innings

C W J Athey not out	15
K Greenfield not out	10
Extras (nb 4)	4
Total (no wkt)	29

BOWLING: Mhambrey 7-1-16-0; Ganguly 1-0-8-0; Srinath 4-3-4-0; Hirwani 2-1-1-0

INDIANS: First Innings

A D Jadeja b Lewry	6
N S Sidhu c Speight b Jarvis	14
S V Manjrekar not out	66
*S R Tendulkar c Greenfield b Phillips	85
†R Dravid not out	7
Extras (lb 2, w 5)	7
Total (3 wkts dec)	185

S Ganguly, S Joshi, J Srinath, P Mhambrey, S L V Raju and N D Hirwani did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-26, 3-159.

BOWLING: Lewry 4-1-17-1; Jarvis 12-2-31-1; Giddins 8-0-52-0; Law 8-1-45-0; Phillips 5-1-38-1

Umpires: M J Kitchen and A A Jones

Britannic Assurance county championship

Durham v Yorkshire

CHESTER-LE-STREET (second day of four): Yorkshire, with three second-innings wickets in hand, are 269 runs ahead of Durham

YORKSHIRE: First Innings 335 (M G Bevan 90, R D Stemp 65, S J E Brown 4 for 93)

Second Innings

A McGrath c Daley b Brown	27
M P Vaughan lbw b Brown	0
*D Byas b Betts	7
M G Bevan lbw b Brown	51
C White c Scott b Betts	15
†R J Blakey c Scott b Brown	7
A C Morris not out	21
D Gough c Scott b Brown	0
P J Hartley not out	12
Extras (b 4, w 1, nb 4)	9
Total (7 wkts)	149

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-10, 3-52, 4-83, 5-116, 6-117, 7-119

BOWLING: Brown 14-5-34-5; Betts 15-2-59-2; Foster 7-0-25-0; Boiling 11-6-27-0.

DURHAM: First Innings

S L Campbell lbw b Gough	0
*M A Roseberry lbw b Hartley	3
J Boiling lbw b Hartley	4
J E Morris c and b Gough	83
J A Daley c Byas b Silverwood	28
J I Longley c Blakey b Hartley	2
P D Collingwood lbw b Morris	6
M J Foster b Hartley	25
†C W Scott not out	15
S J E Brown b Gough	28
M M Betts c Hartley b Stemp	2
Extras (lb 5, nb 14)	19
Total (61.4 overs)	215

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-7, 3-8, 4-76, 5-85, 6-102, 7-150, 8-180, 9-210.

BOWLING: Gough 20-3-57-3; Hartley 18-2-67-4; Silverwood 9-3-20-1, Morris 5-0-28-1, White 5-1-11-0; Stemp 4.4-0-27-1

Bonus points: Durham 5 Yorkshire 7

Umpires: D J Constant and T E Jesty.

Essex v Kent

ILFORD (second day of four): Essex, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 520 runs behind Kent

KENT: First Innings

D P Fulton b Such	34
M V Fleming c Rollins b Such	19
T R Ward c Rollins b Childs	12
C L Hooper c Hussain b Childs	155
G R Cowdrey c Law b Irani	111
M A Ealham c Irani b Ilott	37
*†S A Marsh c sub b Gooch	127
J B Thompson c Hussain b Such	37
M J McCague b Such	28
M M Patel not out	12
N W Preston lbw b Such	0
Extras (lb 8, nb 10)	18
Total	590

Score at 120 overs: 396-6

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-30, 2-49, 3-89, 4-313, 5-371, 6-389, 7-539, 8-561, 9-589

BOWLING: Ilott 33-9-107-1; Williams 16-1-89-0; Such 50.5-8-145-5, Childs 26-5-108-2; Irani 20-2-75-1; Law 6-1-33-0; Gooch 6-1-25-1.

ESSEX: First Innings

G A Gooch not out	45
D D J Robinson st Marsh b Hooper	17
P M Such c Ward b Hooper	3
N Hussain not out	5
Total (2 wkts, 31 overs)	70

S G Law, *P J Prichard, R C Irani, †R J Rollins, M C Ilott, N F Williams and J H Childs to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-48, 2-62.

BOWLING: McCague 1-0-1-0; Thompson 1-0-7-0; Patel 15-6-30-0; Hooper 14-3-32-2.

Bonus points: Essex 2 Kent 4

Umpires: B Leadbeater and V A Holder.

Glamorgan v Derbyshire

CARDIFF (second day of four): Glamorgan, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 452 runs behind Derbyshire

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

K J Barnett c Metson b Watkin	0
A S Rollins c Butcher b Croft	73
C J Adams c Maynard b Thomas	7
*D M Jones c Cottey b Butcher	22
J E Owen c Butcher b Croft	105
C M Wells c Thomas b Butcher	165
D G Cork c Cottey b Croft	10
†K M Krikken lbw b Butcher	51
M J Vandrau c Metson b Croft	2
A J Harris lbw b Butcher	1
D E Malcolm not out	2
Extras (b 1, lb 8, w 1, nb 16)	26
Total	464

Score at 120 overs: 384-6

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-9, 3-51, 4-152, 5-303, 6-355, 7-452, 8-461, 9-461

BOWLING: Watkin 25-8-55-1, Thomas 27-3-129-1; Butcher 17 4-5-28-4; Dale 11-0-43-0; Croft 55-12-122-4, Kendrick 28-8-78-0; Maynard 1-1-0-0

GLAMORGAN: First Innings

S P James not out	6
†C P Metson not out	2
Extras (w 4)	4
Total (no wkt, 6 overs)	12

H Morris, A Dale, *M P Maynard, P A Cottey, G P Butcher, R D B Croft, N M Kendrick, S D Thomas and S L Watkin to bat

BOWLING: Malcolm 3-2-8-0, Cork 3-1-4-0.

Bonus points: Glamorgan 2 Derbyshire 4

Umpires: A G T Whitehead and D R Shepherd

Gloucestershire v Somerset

BRISTOL (second day of four): Somerset, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 132 runs behind Gloucestershire

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings 263 (T H C Hancock 89, R C Russell 63, S Lee 4 for 55)

SOMERSET: First Innings

M N Lathwell c Davis b Walsh	49
P D Bowler c Russell b Walsh	1
*A N Hayhurst c Hancock b Walsh	6
R J Harden not out	53
P C L Holloway run out	14
S Lee not out	3
Extras (lb 2, w 1, nb 2)	5
Total (4 wkts, 50.5 overs)	131

†R J Turner, G D Rose, A R Caddick, K J Shine and J D Batty to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-15, 3-77, 4-112

BOWLING: Walsh 17.5-4-48-3, Smith 12-5-29-0; Lewis 15-7-33-0; Davis 1-0-4-0; Alleyne 5-1-15-0

Bonus points: Gloucestershire 3 Somerset 4

Umpires: B J Meyer and N T Plews.

Leicestershire v Worcestershire

LEICESTER (second day of four). Worcestershire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, need 475 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Leicestershire

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings

V J Wells b Lampitt	35
D L Maddy c Rhodes b Moody	63
B F Smith c Weston b Lampitt	25
P V Simmons c Rhodes b Thomas	51
*J J Whitaker c Rhodes b Moody	168
A Habib run out	215
†P A Nixon c Curtis b Moody	0
D J Millns c Weston b Thomas	4
G J Parsons not out	46
A R K Pierson not out	8
Extras (lb 6, w 1, nb 16)	23
Total (8 wkts dec)	638

Score at 120 overs: 520-5

A D Mullally did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-49, 2-81, 3-174, 4-200, 5-520, 6-524, 7-537, 8-622

BOWLING: Thomas 20-1-119-2; Sheriyar 32-5-110-0; Lampitt 20-3-105-2; Illingworth 38-4-129-0; Leatherdale 6-0-40-0; Moody 27-4-112-3; Hick 8-1-17-0

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

T S Curtis lbw b Millns	9
W P C Weston b Mullally	15
G A Hick c Habib b Mullally	1
*T M Moody b Millns	8
D A Leatherdale c Habib b Parsons	27
K R Spiring c Simmons b Millns	8
†S J Rhodes lbw b Wells	23
S R Lampitt c Maddy b Simmons	23
R K Illingworth b Mullally	31
P A Thomas c Simmons b Millns	5
A Sheriyar not out	0
Extras (lb 4, w 1)	5
Total (52.1 overs)	155

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-21, 3-30, 4-56, 5-73, 6-73, 7-108, 8-134, 9-155.

BOWLING: Millns 14 1-4-37-4; Mullally 9-3-35-3; Parsons 12-3-35-1, Simmons 7-1-16-1; Pierson 5-2-7-0; Wells 5-2-21-1

Second Innings

T S Curtis c Smith b Mullally	5
W P C Weston not out	3
R K Illingworth not out	0
Total (1 wkt)	8

FALL OF WICKET: 1-5

BOWLING: Millns 1 4-0-4-0; Mullally 1-0-4-1

Bonus points: Leicestershire 6 Worcestershire 2

Umpires: A Clarkson and P Willey.

Nottinghamshire v Lancashire

TRENT BRIDGE (second day of four) Lancashire, with seven first-innings wickets in hand, are 215 runs behind Nottinghamshire

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings

P R Pollard c Watkinson b Elworthy	47
R T Robinson run out	122
G F Archer c Speak b Martin	48
A A Metcalfe c Speak b Chapple	31
*P Johnson c Fairbrother b Gallian	63
C L Cairns lbw b Elworthy	65
†W M Noon b Elworthy	20
R T Bates b Martin	18
R A Pick c Keedy b Gallian	5
D B Pennett lbw b Elworthy	10
J A Afford not out	0
Extras (b 6, lb 7, w 2, nb 8)	23
Total	452

Score at 120 overs: 396-5

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-106, 2-212, 3-258, 4-270, 5-384, 6-410, 7-417, 8-426, 9-452

BOWLING: Martin 25-5-83-2; Chapple 24-2-88-1; Watkinson 18-2-48-0; Elworthy 30 5-8-91-4; Keedy 23-4-71-0; Gallian 14-2-60-2.

LANCASHIRE: First Innings

M A Atherton c Noon b Cairns	11
J E R Gallian c Pennett b Bates	94
J P Crawley c Noon b Pick	77
N H Fairbrother not out	44
G Chapple not out	2
Extras (lb 3, nb 6)	9
Total (3 wkts, 76 overs)	237

N J Speak, G Keedy, †W K Hegg, *M Watkinson, P J Martin and S Elworthy to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-162, 3-233

BOWLING: Cairns 12-4-38-1; Pennett 16-2-69-0; Pick 14-4-51-1; Afford 24-10-45-0; Bates 10-3-31-1.

Bonus points: Nottinghamshire 5 Lancashire 3

Umpires: J H Hampshire and J H Harris.

Warwickshire v Hampshire

EDGBASTON (second day of four): Hampshire have a first innings lead of 82 runs over Warwickshire

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings

R S M Morris c Ostler b Pollock	7
J S Laney c Piper b Reeve	73
K D James lbw b Welch	28
*R A Smith c Piper b Reeve	20
G W White lbw b Smith	21
P R Whitaker c Ostler b Giles	21
†A N Aymes c Knight b Pollock	28
W K M Benjamin lbw b Giles	16
R J Maru not out	28
C A Connor c and b Giles	0
S M Milburn b Pollock	9
Extras (b 9, lb 8, nb 6)	23
Total (119 overs)	274

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-70, 3-117, 4-154, 5-158, 6-178, 7-213, 8-252, 9-253

BOWLING: Pollock 31-9-78-3; Brown 12-4-39-0; Welch 16-5-39-1, Giles 31-14-49-3, Reeve 18-8-20-2, Smith 11-5-32-1

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings

N V Knight lbw b Connor	5
W G Khan lbw b Maru	13
D P Ostler b Connor	0
T L Penney b Connor	48
*D A Reeve lbw b Connor	41
S M Pollock c Benjamin b James	45
D R Brown c Laney b Maru	11
N M K Smith c White b Connor	2
†K J Piper c Aymes b James	13
G Welch lbw b James	9
A F Giles not out	1
Extras (lb 4)	4
Total (88.5 overs)	192

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-7, 3-50, 4-74, 5-154, 6-165, 7-169, 8-169, 9-187.

BOWLING: Benjamin 12-2-25-0; Connor 24-6-57-5; Milburn 8-0-28-0; Maru 25-8-49-2, James 13 5-3-17-3; Whitaker 6-3-12-0.

Bonus points: Warwickshire 4 Hampshire 6

Umpires: K J Lyons and R A White

Other Matches

Cambridge University v Middlesex

FENNER'S (second day of three): Cambridge University, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 156 runs ahead of Middlesex

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First Innings 300 for 7 dec (W J House 127)

Second Innings

R O Jones lbw b Weekes	18
E T Smith not out	47
A Singh not out	22
Extras (b 6, lb 2, nb 4)	12
Total (1 wkt)	99

FALL OF WICKET: 1-52

BOWLING: Follett 7-1-27-0; Fay 6-1-14-0; Tufnell 12-5-23-0, Weekes 11-2-27-1.

MIDDLESEX: First Innings

P N Weekes c Churton b Moffat	14
J C Pooley not out	138
J P Hewitt c Moffat b Deakin	72
J C Harrison b Jones	3
D J Nash not out	8
Extras (b 4, lb 2, nb 2)	8
Total (3 wkts dec)	243

J D Carr, *M W Gatting, †K R Brown, P C R Tufnell, R A Fay and D Follett did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-208, 3-225.

BOWLING: Moffat 16-1-70-1; Whittall 21-3-79-0; Janisch 7-2-9-0; Jones 17-2-31-1; House 8-1-20-0; Deakin 9-1-28-1.

Umpires: J F Steele and R Palmer.

Oxford University v Northamptonshire

THE PARKS (second day of three): Northamptonshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 89 runs ahead of Oxford University

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings 326 for 2 dec (R R Montgomerie 119, D J Roberts 72, M B Loye 65 not out, T C Walton 55 not out)

Second Innings

A L Penberthy not out	7
A J Swann not out	14
Total (no wkt)	21

BOWLING: Du Preez 5-2-7-0, Thomson 4-0-14-0.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First Innings

*C M Gupte lbw b Mallender	4
†J N Batty run out	56
G Khan lbw b A R Roberts	96
H S Malik b Wild	1
M Wagh c Swann b A R Roberts	27
M E D Jarrett not out	50
C E R Lightfoot b A R Roberts	9
J J Bull run out	4
R B Thomson not out	2
Extras (lb 9)	9
Total (7 wkts dec)	258

S P Du Preez and D P Mather did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-147, 3-157, 4-168, 5-204, 6-226, 7-250

BOWLING: Mallender 15-7-27-1, Wild 14-4-62-1, A R Roberts 30-11-57-3, Walton 10-1-42-0; Snape 24 2-5-46-0; Swann 5-1-15-0

Umpires: R Julian and K E Palmer

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SATURDAY MAY 18 1996

Venables puts faith in Wilcox

Wingers given the chance to raise England

By Rob Hughes, football correspondent

PERHAPS with a historian's keen eye, Terry Venables meets the Hungarians at Wembley this afternoon with one winger restored and another, Jason Wilcox, brought in for his international debut just three weeks before the kick-off to England's most important tournament since the 1966 World Cup.

Indeed, the coach makes four changes. He leaves the defence, the new three-man formation, untouched, but as well as swapping Darren Anderton for Steve Stone, and Wilcox for Steve McManaman on the left, he brings back Robert Lee in place of Paul Gascoigne and Les Ferdinand for Robbie Fowler.

There is one over-riding reason for the late inclusion of Wilcox: he is the only attack-minded left-footed player in the squad, the only man to offer penetration on that flank since his Blackburn Rovers team-mate, Graeme Le Saux, broke his leg. Could Venables be anticipating that Wilcox, born in Farnworth, close to Bolton, might have a similar impact on this tournament as Alan Ball, born in the same neck of the woods, had in 1966.

Wilcox, slender, sinewy, industrious and pacy, came back on March 13 after a year lost to a cruciate ligament injury. "He's exploded into form," Venables said. "He's come back a little sharper than before, he's going past defenders." With Anderton returning in similar fashion from long-term injury, suddenly England possesses two wingers who can hit the ball in full stride for the head or feet of a centre forward as powerful and as swift as Ferdinand.

Long before Wilcox was born, Hungary came to this same stadium, in 1953, and gave English football the lesson of a lifetime. We never learnt it, Hungary have forgotten it, and so both countries are grasping for former, sepia-toned glories. For the record, England had been unbeaten on home soil for 90 years before Hidegkuti, Puskas and Kocsis set about them. Hungary destroyed England's pretensions with a 6-3 win at Wembley, which they followed, six months later, with a 7-1 win in Budapest.

Just as Venables called leading club managers together after their poor performances in Europe last winter, so, in 1954, did Walter Winterbottom, then the director of coaching of England, call a meeting at the Café Royal. Stan Cullis had blamed Derek Ufton for allowing Hidegkuti the space to score a hat-trick. Winterbottom then inquired: "Who does the centre half mark?" The centre forward, of course. But in this case, new to international football, the man with No 9 on his back, Hidegkuti, was a centre forward with a difference; he withdrew to leave space for Puskas and Kocsis, two rapacious forwards who were to score at least a goal in every game while Hungary won 43 of 51 matches.

The key to their game, to the tactics that introduced 4-2-4 to the world, was polished technique, incredible sprint speed in all departments, but, above all, an open mind to improvisation. Sometimes you wonder whether the British have ever acquired those qualities.

That history is long gone, however. Unless we are about to be deceived anew, the Magyars who come to our capital today have lost the magic. After a 4-1 defeat in Croatia, and then a 2-0 loss to Austria at home last month, both the president of the Hungary football association and the coach have been replaced, and, frankly, the inevitable changes in selection mean that the new Hungarians are, to our eyes, an anonymous bunch.

Their forefathers dug deep into their social roots to try to fathom their decline. Sandor Barcs, the former head of their football association, once took me into the streets of Budapest.

"Listen," he said. "Do you hear anything?" Nothing, and that was his point. He had conducted a survey of 93 players from 1910 to the 1980s. He found that the earlier players had played in the streets for three hours every day, rain, hail or shine. "The ball knocking against doors and walls was our heartbeat," he said. "Today, I conclude, that a boy would play only eight minutes per day unstructured football. That is where we have lost it."

And today? Still searching, the Hungarians have launched a new scheme. They are coaching as many of the 600,000 Romany population that they can attract, hoping that their feel for music and dance might replace the lost art of improvisation in their national game.

It will not, of course, happen overnight. Janos Csank, the former goalkeeper newly installed as team coach, admits that he is building on youthful legs for the future. As he does so, it is interesting to see that English tutors are still coveted abroad: Bobby Robson, sacked because guiding England to the 1990 World Cup semi-finals did not convince the Football Association of his worth, is about to succeed Johan Cruyff as the coach at Barcelona and Brian Kidd, the assistant to Alex Ferguson at Manchester United, is taking a summer job — preparing Ghana for the World Cup qualifiers. He will guide Tony Yeboah, Abedi Pele *et al*, all gifted under-achievers. If only England had those gifts to go with the knowledge.

Photograph, page 45
McCoist doubt, page 45
Saunders bid, page 45

TEAMS

ENGLAND (3-5-1-1) D Seaman (Arsenal) — G Neville (Manchester United), M Wright (Liverpool), S Pearce (Nottingham Forest) — D Anderton (Tottenham Hotspur), D Platt (Arsenal), P Ince (Internazionale), R Lee (Newcastle United), J Wilcox (Blackburn Rovers) — E Sheringham (Tottenham Hotspur) — L Ferdinand (Newcastle United).

HUNGARY (3-5-2): Petry (Gencerbirligi, Turkey) — Hahn (Honved), Banfi (Aalst, Belgium), Plokai (Honved) — Mrasko (Bekescsaba), Urban (Gyor), Illes (NTK) or Sebok (Ujpest), Nagy (Ferencvaros), Balog (Charleroi, Belgium) — Horvath (Fehervar), Vincze (BVSC Dreher).

Referee: M Merk (Germany).

Robson poised for Barcelona role

By Russell Kempson

BOBBY ROBSON, the former England manager, is expected to take over as coach of Barcelona next week. Though the Spanish club refused to confirm the move yesterday, it is believed that Robson will leave FC Porto, of Portugal, to conclude his managerial career at the Nou Camp stadium.

Robson, 63, will sign a two-year contract, worth £2 million, after finalising negotiations with José Luis Núñez, the Barcelona president, over the weekend. He will replace Johan Cruyff, the Dutchman, who has been in charge for eight years.

"I expect it to be made official in the next 48 hours," Robson said. "It is all I want, then I will bow out of football, but what a way to go: as manager of one of the great clubs.

"There are only a handful of really top jobs in world football — Manchester United, Inter Milan, Real Madrid, Juventus and Barcelona. They are big, big clubs and I am so excited by this, even at my age."

Robson retired as manager of England after guiding them to the World Cup semi-finals in Italy in 1990, when they were beaten by Germany in a penalty shoot-out. He led PSV Eindhoven to consecutive Dutch league championships and spent a brief spell at Sporting Lisbon before joining Porto, who recently secured their second successive Portuguese league title.

"I have come abroad and worked hard. My record is good," Robson said. "Having just won the league again, I expected to stay here, but what an opportunity this is. I will say my farewells to the club on Sunday and expect to be at Barcelona next week."

Cruyff's reign at the Nou Camp has been one of the most successful periods in the Catalan club's history. They won the European Cup for the first time in 1992 and were Spanish league champions four times in a row from 1991 to 1994.

However, they have since fallen from grace, with Cruyff's relationship with Núñez swiftly deteriorating. Barcelona lost to Atlético Madrid in the Spanish Cup final this season and were knocked out of the Uefa Cup, in the semi-finals, by Bayern Munich, the eventual champions. A 1-1 draw against Español this week ended their lingering hopes of overhauling Atlético at the top of the league and made Cruyff's position untenable.

Robson underwent surgery for cancer last year but has made a good recovery. A Porto source said yesterday: "The club has agreed to release Bobby and, in all probability, the move to Barcelona will be completed this weekend."

IAN STEWART

Jiménez, who retained the lead at The Oxfordshire, seeks relief from the wind and rain as he lines up a testing putt in his round of 70

Calm Montgomerie weathers the storm

By John Hopkins
Golf correspondent

THERE are not many occasions when the remarkable score by a professional of 13 at one hole is eclipsed by the quality of golf played elsewhere. But on another windy and intermittently rainy day at the Benson and Hedges International Open yesterday when, for some players a golf course was the last place they wanted to be, Padraig Harrington's eight-over-par total on the 17th was put into the shade by the relentlessly authoritative play of Colin Montgomerie.

The Scot went round in 68 and set a small record by becoming the first competitor to complete a round at The Oxfordshire without a bogey.

This was no mean achievement. This course has brutish qualities that pose considerable problems in a dead calm. It becomes almost impossible to master in a wind and when it is as cold as it has been this week. "It's a slog," Nick Faldo, who had a 73 and is one under par, said. "It was a hard, hard day. I can't remember the last time I had to hit so many long-irons."

Miguel Angel Jiménez, whose 70 took him to six under par and a two-stroke lead, said, with his teeth almost audibly chattering: "It's freezing, very cold. When it's as cold as this, you don't feel your fingers, you're stiff and you can't move your body."

What happens when the professionals compete at a course as difficult as this one, and in conditions as inclement as these, is that the best complain the least and find themselves near the top of the leaderboard. "I play in events to get into contention, and I'm there again," Montgomerie, who is two strokes behind Jiménez, said. "With this course you tend not to get a fluky winner because it is so demanding. On such courses you generally find that the Ryder Cup players come to the top."

Ian Woosnam improved his opening day's 72 by two strokes as if to bear out what Montgomerie was saying, and then Bernhard Langer joined Montgomerie and Jon Robson on four under par as well. Langer is one hard man. Only last month at the Masters he appeared to have been afflicted by the yips yet again.

Leading scores 45

Yet he came in with a 71, notable for his recovery from dropping three strokes in two holes by then covering his last 13 holes in three under par. If you wanted someone to fight for your life, Langer's your man. Others may complain. For Langer, vicissitudes are meat and drink.

"The most consistent players will come out on top this week — the guys who hit the ball lower and keep it under control," Woosnam said. "The wind makes you play all sorts of shots. It's good for the lads to play a lot in the wind to learn control. I might hit a seven-iron 110 yards and they go in with a nine-iron and wonder why it spins off the green."

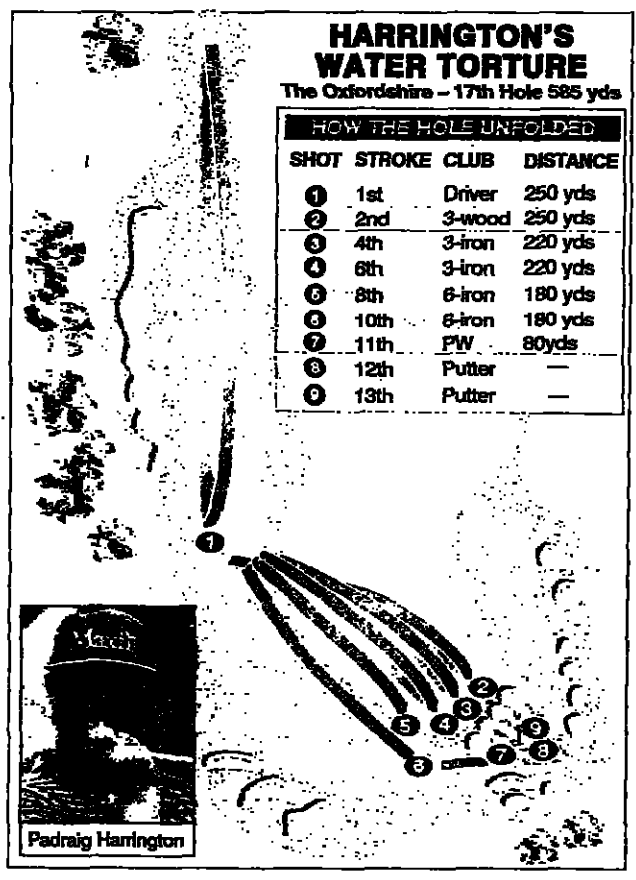
It is to be hoped that Gordon Sherry was not disheartened by dropping seven strokes in as many holes to miss the cut. An 80 is most un-Sherry-like but he should have learnt a lot from playing alongside Frank Nobilo and Sandy Lyle. Perhaps the visible signs of temper that he was demonstrating, and which displeased Nobilo, will soon be curbed.

Harrington, Sherry's team-mate in the Walker Cup last year, is unlikely to take 13 again. After hitting three balls into the water on the 17th, he finally admitted that the carry was too much for him. "I had 250 yards downwind but unfortunately I forgot that 240 of them were over water," Harrington said, with engaging Irishness.

He also said that he did not know how many balls he had hit into the water until he asked his caddie to count how many he had left in his bag.

Then he took that total from the number he had started with and realised the awful truth. Faldo, who was playing with Harrington, did his best not to criticise the young Irishman, pointing out that he was young and in his first season.

"It was a case of if at first you don't succeed, then play sideways," Faldo said.



HARRINGTON'S WATER TORTURE
The Oxfordshire – 17th Hole 585 yds

HOW THE HOLE UNFOLDED

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❷	2nd	3-wood	250 yds
❸	4th	3-iron	220 yds
❹	6th	3-iron	220 yds
❺	8th	6-iron	180 yds
❻	10th	6-iron	180 yds
❼	11th	PW	80yds
❽	12th	Putter	—
❾	13th	Putter	—

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Schumacher outlines winning formula

From Oliver Holt
in Monte Carlo

MICHAEL SCHUMACHER last night abandoned the protestations of inferiority in which he has cloaked himself this season and admitted that, for the first time since he joined Ferrari, he was contemplating victory. The world champion has won the Monaco Grand Prix for the past two years and intends to claim his hat-trick here tomorrow.

Schumacher has edged closer to the Williams-Renault of Damon Hill as the season has progressed. He ran Hill's team-mate, Jacques Villeneuve, a close second at the European Grand Prix at the Nürburging last month and then chased Hill all the way to the chequered flag at Imola a fortnight ago. His acknowledged mastery of this tight, twisting circuit could give him the edge he needs to take the final step towards victory.

Schumacher knows that a victory here would turn Hill's quest to win the race his late father, Graham, dominated in the 1960s into something akin to Ivan Lendl's forlorn pursuit of a Wimbledon title and could transform the season. Hill leads the drivers' championship by 22 points from Villeneuve and is 27 points ahead of Schumacher. But the German, who has just moved from the Principality to Switzerland, has inherited the title of King of Monaco that was bestowed on Hill's father, who won five times, and Ayrton Senna, who went one better.

"I have tasted success in Monaco in the last two years," Schumacher said yesterday. "My hunger is as great as ever, I want to do it again and again because this is the one race any driver is proud to have on his record.

"I have special motivation on this occasion. It is not so much for myself as for the whole Ferrari team. If we win, it will be a tremendous boost after so much hard work has been done since the start of the season to catch up Williams. We have improved step by step and I was surprised by the form we showed at San Marino in the last grand prix.

"I know I have said it would be halfway through the season before Ferrari are competitive enough to win a race but, by that, I meant on a consistent basis. I think it is possible to get a one-off victory before then and why not here? I will be going for it."

Driver reborn, page 44

MANY THINGS HAVE GONE FOR A BURTON THESE DAYS – BUT THANKFULLY NOT IN BURTON. MARSTON'S PEDIGREE REMAINS THE GOLDEN PINT IT ALWAYS WAS, BECAUSE IT'S THE ONLY BEER TRADITIONALLY BREWED IN WOODEN CASKS.

هكذا من الاصل

Italy's new government raises hopes of stability

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

ITALY took a historic shift yesterday towards what it hopes will be a more stable democracy as Professor Romano Prodi, leader of the Centre Left, formed the first Government since 1948 to put key portfolios in left-wing hands. The lira rose, as did stocks in Milan.

The formation of the Prodi Government only a month after the election — remarkable speed by Italian standards — is symptomatic of the sea-change in Italian politics. There was, nonetheless, the traditional horse-trading before Signor Prodi met President Scalfaro at the Quirinale Palace to announce a judicious mix of experienced centrists and former Communists to run Italy's 55th postwar Government.

The young new Deputy Prime Minister, Walter Veltroni, is a senior member of the Party of the Democratic Left (PDS), the former Communist Party, as is the veteran former Communist and former Speaker, Giorgio Napolitano, who becomes Interior Minister. Other former Communists to get key posts are Vincenzo Visco, who becomes Finance Minister, and Luigi Berlinguer — cousin of the late Communist leader, Enrico Berlinguer — who takes over Education and Technology.

The Left is balanced by senior centrist politicians such as Lamberto Dini, the interim "technocrat" Prime Minister for the past 18 months, who becomes Foreign Minister, replacing Susanna Agnelli. The markets were also reassured by the appointment as Treasury and Budget Minister of Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, a former central banker who was Prime Minister from 1992-93, and of Antonio Maccanico, who served as chief aide to successive postwar leaders, as Minister of Posts and Telecommunications.

The hard-left Rifondazione Comunista, on whose votes Signor Prodi will rely for a clear majority in parliament, had opposed Signor Ciampi. Signor Prodi appeased them by giving Signor Visco the Finance Ministry.

La Repubblica noted that Signor Prodi, who taught economics at Bologna University, was fast learning the "subtle alchemy which blends power with idealism".

The PDS had lobbied hard for the defence portfolio, a move which would have highlighted the dramatic shift to the Left in Italian politics. In the Cold War years the mere thought of a Communist Defence Minister would have caused a crisis in Nato. In the event, Signor Prodi played safe by appointing Beniamino Andreatta, Signor Ciampi's Foreign Minister in 1993.

The Prodi Government is further boosted by the inclusion of Antonio Di Pietro, the hugely popular magistrate who led the "Clean Hands" anti-corruption drive in 1992, as Minister of Public Works. He is expected to tackle endemic corruption.

THE PRODI CABINET

Prime Minister	Romano Prodi (Italian Popular Party)
Deputy PM, Culture	Walter Veltroni (Democratic Party of the Left)
Foreign	Lamberto Dini (Italian Renewal)
Defence	Beniamino Andreatta (Italian Popular Party)
Interior	Giorgio Napolitano (Democratic Party of the Left)
Justice	Giovanni Maria Flick (Independent)
Finance	Vincenzo Visco (Democratic Party of the Left)
Treasury, Budget	Carlo Azeglio Ciampi (Independent)
Public Works	Antonio Di Pietro (Independent)
Labour	Tiziano Treu (Italian Renewal)
Regional Affairs	Franco Bassanini (Democratic Party of the Left)
Industry	Pierluigi Bersani (Democratic Party of the Left)
Transportation	Claudio Burlando (Democratic Party of the Left)
Education	Luigi Berlinguer (Democratic Party of the Left)
Post & Telecommunications	Antonio Maccanico (Italian Popular Party)
Foreign Trade	Augusto Fantozzi (Italian Renewal)
Environment	Edo Ronchi (Greens)
Family and Social Affairs	Livia Turco (Democratic Party of the Left)
Health	Rosaria Bindi (Italian Popular Party)
Equal Opportunity	Anna Finocchiaro (Democratic Party of the Left)
Agriculture	Michele Pinto (Italian Popular Party)

Romano Prodi: blending power with idealism

Mad puma scare grips France's forbidden forest

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE Beast of Bodmin may have moved to western France, where a mysterious wild "puma" has struck fear into local inhabitants, savaged a cow and forced the closure of one of France's favourite tourist spots.

Like the mythical feline periodically said to be seen on Bodmin Moor, the puma supposedly stalking the Forêt de Chizé is an elusive beast, but the evidence of a sharp-toothed, long-clawed predator has been sufficient to persuade local authorities to close the 13,000-acre forest to walkers.

Tales of a large and dangerous animal, described variously as a puma, outsized wildcat, mountain lion or feral dog, began circulating last summer and alleged sightings have multiplied in recent months. The animal first attacked and seriously clawed a heifer, then a dog, according to the Préfecture des Deux-Sèvres.

"We have tried everything to catch it," Alain Gérard, a spokesman for the préfecture, said. "Beaters, live and dead bait, tempting it with a female puma specially brought in from Brittany, but nothing has worked.

"We are going to appeal for help from specialists at the Environment Ministry, but in the meantime the closure of the forest remains in force," he said. Large signs have been erected declaring the forest off-limits to walkers, hunters, ramblers and mushroom collectors.

The Forêt de Chizé, an area of great scenic beauty south of Niort, attracts thousands of visitors every year and businesses which largely rely on tourism insist that banning pedestrian access is ridiculous and stifling the local economy. "This beast could stay there for ten years. We do not want to remain sealed off for ten years," complained Daniel Guérineau, the Mayor of nearby Villiers-en-Bois, who also runs a zoo of 600 wild and domestic animals that brings 60,000 visitors in a normal year.

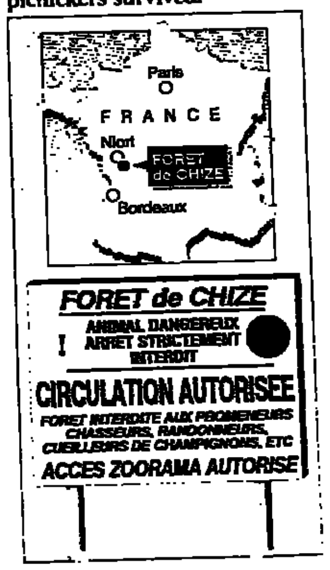
The préfecture, however, points out that mountain lion attacks in America in recent years have killed ten people, mostly children under nine years of age. "This animal could be dangerous, above all if it is young, as seems to be the case," M Gérard said.

France is no stranger to puma scares, most of which have turned out to be shaggy dog stories. Three years ago the so-called Puma de l'Oise briefly caused turmoil in the region north of Paris until the savage beastie was identified as an ill-trained pedigree dog.

Earlier this month, residents on the outskirts of Nice on the Riviera were gripped by another puma panic after witnesses claimed to have spotted a large animal weighing at least 70 kilos (155lb), with a long tail. The Nice fire department said that an influx of over-enthusiastic hunters could pose a far greater threat to the population than any itinerant feline.

The inhabitants of the French Pyrenees, it appears, are made of sterner stuff. In the next few days zoologists will release three bears captured in Slovenia into mountains of the Haute-Garonne in a bid to regenerate the wild bear population, which has dropped to about seven from 200 in 1937.

M Guérineau said this week that tourists and groups of schoolchildren on nature-study trips should be allowed back into the forest. On Thursday he held a picnic on the edge of the forest near one of the most recent sightings, to which he invited mayors from neighbouring towns. All the picnickers survived.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Niort
FORET de CHIZE
Bordeaux
FORET de CHIZE
ANIMAL DANGEREUX
ARRET STRICTEMENT INTERDIT
CIRCULATION AUTORISEE
FORET INTERDITE AUX PROMENEURS CHASSEURS, RANDONNEURS, CUEILLEURS DE CHAMPIGNONS, ETC
ACCES ZOORAMA AUTORISE

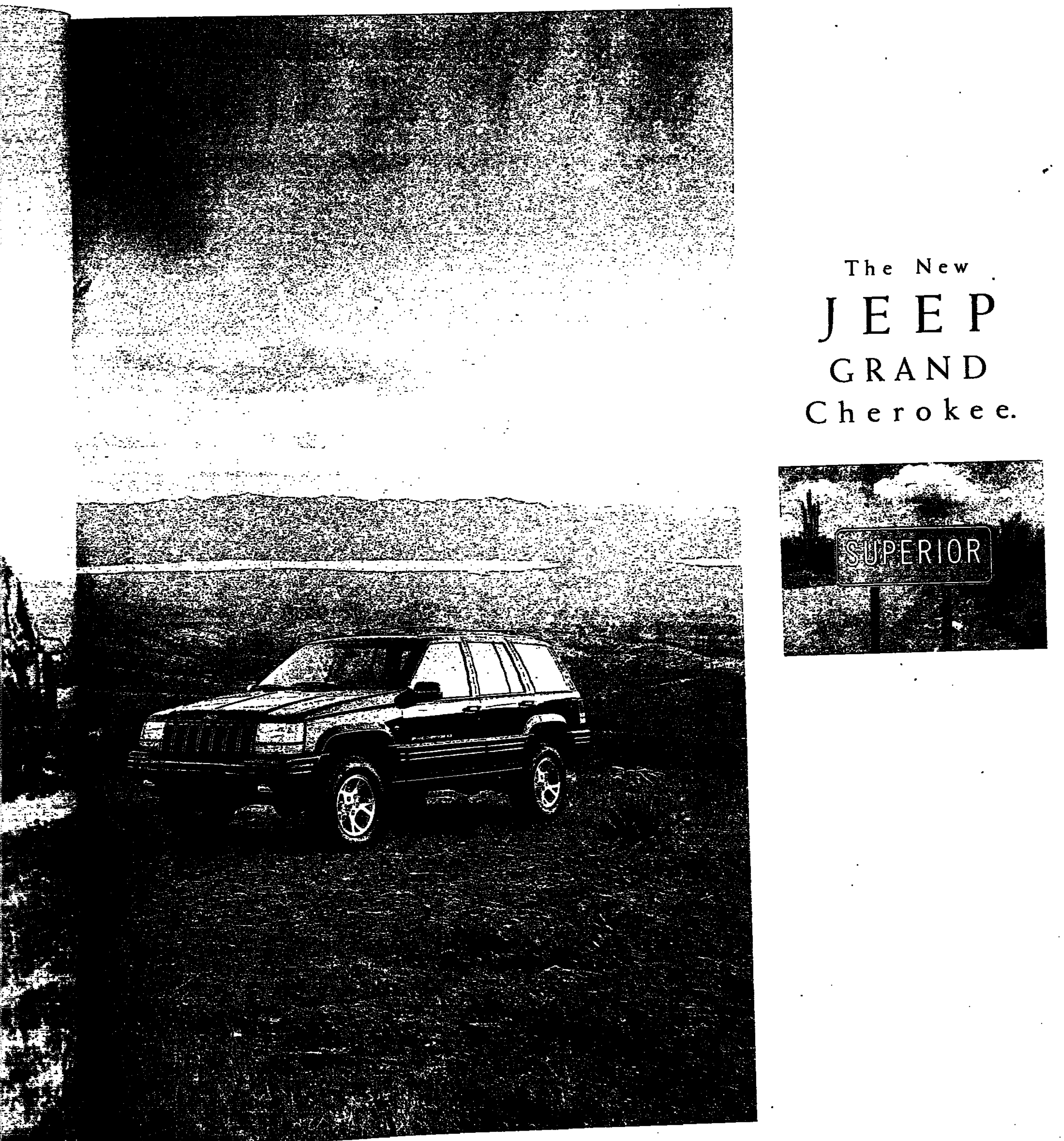
The sign barring entry to the tourist venue

Cezanne sold for £16.5m

Los Angeles: Cézanne's *Still Life With Apples*, a painting considered to be his finest still life in private hands, has been bought by the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles for an estimated £16.5 million (Giles Whittell writes).

The surprise purchase from a private collection in Switzerland may signal the start of a new buying spree by the small but lavishly endowed Getty Museum, which moves next year to huge new premises.

The Cézanne, painted in 1893-94, is well known in Europe having been on long-term loan to the Kunsthaus in Zurich.



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Gibraltar winner brings hope to Britain and Spain

By Dominique Searle in Gibraltar, Tunku Varadarajan in Madrid and Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor

AFTER eight years under the leadership of the self-proclaimed *Street Fighter*-style politician Joseph Bossano, Gibraltar opted for a dramatic change yesterday by voting in Peter Caruana and his Gibraltar Social Democrats as the Rock's new Government.

An unprecedented 88 per cent of the electorate voted to give the Social Democrats 52 per cent and Mr Bossano's Gibraltar Socialist Labour Party 43 per cent, which shows a significant fall from grace for a party which topped the polls with a record 73 per cent of the votes in 1992.

The highest personal vote went to the charismatic Peter Montegriffo, 36, who was just four votes ahead of Mr Caruana, a fellow lawyer. But they have declared that they plan to work as a joint team, handling the key issues of relations with Britain and Spain, and breaking away from the personal antagonism which they accuse Mr Bossano of creating with both countries because of his autocratic style.

Britain made no official comment last night on the Gibraltar election, but the Government is hoping for better relations with Mr Caruana. Whitehall officials suggested that Mr Caruana would probably have an early meeting in London with Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary. The Government is still unclear what Mr Caruana's priorities are, or how he proposes to balance his election calls for greater dialogue with Spain and Britain with his insistence that sovereignty is not negotiable.

The Spanish Government did little more than reiterate its well-worn position, despite the election of a less hostile Chief Minister in Gibraltar. José Maria Aznar, Spain's new conservative Prime Minister, revealed no change in his country's policy. "The future of Gibraltar," he said, "remains a matter to be resolved only between the Governments of Spain and the United Kingdom".

But Ramón de Miguel Egea, the Secretary of State for Foreign Policy and EU Affairs, was guardedly optimistic about a better political climate. "We hope that Mr Caruana's election will assist the British Government in its negotiations with Spain. If the new leader of Gibraltar will help to improve relations between his community and Spain, then we welcome the change."

A supporter embraces Mr Caruana early yesterday after his party's triumph in the Gibraltar general elections

Mr Caruana's credentials to be a Gibraltar Chief Minister could not be more unlikely. His public school background and education at Radcliffe College, Oxford, and his marriage to Christina, the daughter of J. E. Triay, QC, the man who led a bid for autonomy with Franco's Spain in the 1960s, has not made political life easy for him. Nor has the fact that he is a former Commodore of the Royal Gibraltar Yacht Club and a keen, if infrequent, golfer. But he comes from a modest family of three generations of originally Maltese outfitters who still keep a shop in the Main Street, where they used to supply the Royal Navy. Mr Caruana, 39, with five children, is deeply religious — Masses were said at Roman Catholic churches for an election win — and has survived politics against the odds. Four years ago he lost his eldest son, Michael, in a riding accident.

He has a wry sense of humour, and is a passionate support of Manchester United.

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Australia hails first Aboriginal judge

From Roger Maynard in Sydney

IT HAS taken two centuries of bloody confrontation, racial discrimination and political struggle, but finally Australia has its first Aboriginal judge.

Bob Bellear yesterday swore the judicial oath in a historic ceremony before a packed public gallery in the New South Wales District Court. Aboriginal and white Australians, many representing the legal profession, watched the ceremony.

The Sydney lawyer, 51, who began studying law in the early 1970s after training as a fitter in the Navy, was motivated by the routine harassment of Aborigines in the predominantly Aboriginal Sydney suburb of Redfern. Jeff Shaw, New South Wales Attorney-General, said his appointment was part of the reconciliation process between the indigenous people of Australia and society generally.

Turning to the man he had appointed, Mr Shaw added: "Every week you would watch Aboriginal people being arrested and dragged off to the police station, to the cells. Sometimes there was a reason for it, but often there was not. Seeing this injustice repeated week after week hit hard and there was no way that Bob Bellear was going to sit back and watch it keep happening." The new judge spent three years on Australia's official inquiry into Aboriginal deaths in custody. He was later employed by the Government to represent people who could not afford a lawyer.

Leading article, page 21

WORLD SUMMARY

French hunt 'dead' gangster

Paris: A suspected French gangster linked to Islamic terrorists was being hunted yesterday after forensic scientists proved he had not, after all, died in a police shootout (Ben Macintyre writes).

Police had been sure one of four charred bodies found in March in a burnt-out house in the northern city of Roubaix was that of Lionel Dumont, 25. He was suspected of taking part in armed hold-ups on security vans and at shops.

Genetic testing proved M Dumont was not among the dead, leaving the identity of the fourth corpse unknown.

Ivory Coast tells of army split

Abidjan: Ivory Coast has admitted the army was split and there was a possible coup attempt in the run-up to last October's presidential election. Bandama N'Gatta, Defence Minister, said armed forces' chiefs told President Bedie the officers involved must face court-martial. Trouble arose after a general was removed for refusing to quell poll violence. *(Reuter)*

Restoration plea for Acropolis

Athens: An appeal for more money to help to strengthen the monuments of the Acropolis and make them safer for visitors has been made by the Greek Ministry of Culture (John Carr writes). Parts of the Parthenon are in constant danger of falling. Since 1983 it has been roped off as its 12,575 marble blocks are dismantled and reinforced.

Anti-Kaunda Bill stirs violence

Harare: An explosion near President Chiluba's official residence and warnings by an underground movement of attacks on the Zambian Government have marked increasingly violent opposition to a parliamentary Bill apparently intended to keep former President Kaunda out of elections this year.

Boy charged over baby's death

Englewood, Colorado: A boy aged ten has been charged in connection with the death of Jazmine Haen, 18 months, who was beaten with a dog chain and left to die beside a cat carcass at her home in this Denver suburb. The boy was taken to court in leg-irons and handcuffs. *(AP)*

North Koreans forced back

Seoul: South Korean troops fired warning shots to force five North Korean soldiers back to their own side of the demilitarised zone, a military official said. The North Koreans had fired shots before they were seen. There were no casualties. *(AFP)*

Plan to end call-up wins Yeltsin voters

From Thomas de Waal in Moscow

PRESIDENT YELTSIN'S sweeping proposal to phase out Russia's conscript army by 2000 seemed to be winning him important votes yesterday from parents and Russian youth, despite fears that the plan is not enforceable.

Three second-year students having a smoke in the sunshine outside Moscow University's journalism faculty welcomed the President's decree, but said they would try to "spin out" a year after graduating in 1999 so that they would not have to answer a call-up. They said Mr Yeltsin's announcement on Thursday strengthened their resolve to vote for him in the presidential election, to be held on June 16.

Lev Nikolayev, 18, said: "A lot more young people will go and vote as a result. It inspires hope. I don't really believe it will work myself, but there is always hope."

Mothers from the human rights organisation called Sons, whose children are at the front line in Chechenia, said as they picketed yesterday outside the Duma that they were more interested in Mr Yeltsin's second decree — absolving conscripts from going to fight in Chechenia against their will.

"We don't believe it," said Tatyana Maksimova, whose son Sergei, 20, serves in an Interior Ministry battalion in Grozny, the Chechen capital. He was to have been demobilised in April, but instead had to serve a second tour of duty. She added: "If they release our boys, I would vote for Yeltsin. Otherwise, I won't."

The Communist opposition to President Yeltsin has been wrongfooted by the decrees. General Albert Makashov, a prominent Russian nationalist and Communist MP, said his party would stand by a commitment to a conscript army. "We have very rich experience in military action and mercenaries never fought better than patriots," he said.

The general and other experts said setting up a professional army would be very costly. Contract soldiers are presently paid about seven times more than conscripts.

But Vladimir Lopatin, a leading Duma proponent of military reform, said the main drain on army resources was the bloated officer corps and its General Staff. About 90,000 new officers join the army every year and the Russian military boasts more than 2,000 generals, many of them so-called "parquet generals", who draw big salaries and never leave their offices.

هكذا من الاصل

Apology to US sailors in admiral's suicide note

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

IN A suicide note written the day before he died, the US Navy's top admiral apologised to every American sailor for wearing Vietnam combat insignia to which he had not been entitled.

Admiral Jeremy "Mike" Boorda, the Chief of Naval Operations, shot himself in the chest outside his Washington residence on Thursday afternoon as reporters were due to question him about valour pins he had worn on two of his 16 decorations. He died shortly afterwards.

The death sent shockwaves through the military and political establishment in Washington and, months before the presidential election, raised once more the spectre of President Clinton's own Vietnam record, in which he had dodged the national draft.

The bronze pins, which are sold for about 50p at most American army surplus shops, should be worn only when accompanied by a citation saying that an individual has been at personal risk in hostile action.

The admiral received two decorations, the Navy achievement and Navy commendation medals, for his outstanding service in the Vietnam War. The first, awarded in 1965, gave no authorisation for a valour pin, which he had worn until two years ago when the issue was raised in a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

Pentagon officials said he had left two suicide notes, the first to his wife Bettie and their family, and the second addressed to two close friends. In this message to all sailors, he recognised his error in wearing the "V" pins and feared that colleagues would never see his action as an honest mistake. A television broadcast said that one note had referred to media criticism of the Navy. "I have given you more to write about," CNN reported he had written.

Admiral Boorda, 57, was due to be questioned by Evan Thomas, the Washington bureau chief of *Newsweek*, about a report the magazine was preparing by Colonel David Hackworth, its contributing editor on military affairs.

Colonel Hackworth, a colourful figure known by war reporters and soldiers as "the Hack", has been an outspoken critic of the military since he left the US Army after Vietnam. In an article in 1990, he lambasted the debasing of combat decorations, citing the case of a soldier awarded the Purple Heart for suffering heatstroke in Panama. Recognised as the most decorated living soldier in America, Colonel Hackworth is credited with 110 decorations earned in Korea and Vietnam, 78 combat-related.

The prospect of the disclosure by the highly decorated journalist was seen yesterday as the final ignominy for Admiral Boorda, whom Mr Clinton had appointed as the US Navy's top military officer two years ago.

He had drawn criticism in recent weeks, including an attack by anonymous letter in the *Navy Times* which said he had lost the respect of other senior officers and should resign. "Little Mickey Boorda," the letter said, "you are not their leader. Go home immediately for the sake of the Navy you love."

James Webb, the former Navy Secretary, delivered a scathing address at the Naval Academy last month in which he accused unnamed leaders of currying political favour at the expense of naval personnel. The speech, implicitly directed at Admiral Boorda, denounced senior ranks for "killing morale down the chain of command" and "embracing political correctness".

However, he was a folk hero to enlisted sailors: he started his career swabbing decks as a teenager and ended it as the US Navy's top officer.

Senator John McCain, a former navy pilot and prisoner of war in Vietnam, said yesterday that the medal discrepancy could have been an honest mistake. The Gulf of Tonkin, where Admiral Boorda had served, was a designated combat zone.

Obituary, page 23

Boorda: folk hero to enlisted sailors

Bob Dole with his wife Elizabeth in Chicago for his first campaign appearance since leaving the Senate

Citizen Bob begins his new-look bid for White House

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

FAREWELL, Senator Dole; welcome, Citizen Bob. A day after resigning his Senate seat of 27 years the Republican presidential nominee unveiled a new Bob Dole to relaunch his campaign in the heartlands capital of Chicago.

For the first time in memory, Mr Dole appeared in a jacket and open shirt instead of a dark suit and tie. He visited a restaurant-bar and cheekily took a chip off a woman's plate. He gave a speech mercifully shorn of legislative jargon in which he cast himself as a commonsense Kansan conservative battling a deceitful liberal President who would run amok if re-elected.

What the speech did not contain — as the White House swiftly pointed out — was substantive new ideas, which is hardly surprising as the Dole campaign has been preoccupied almost exclusively with political positioning.

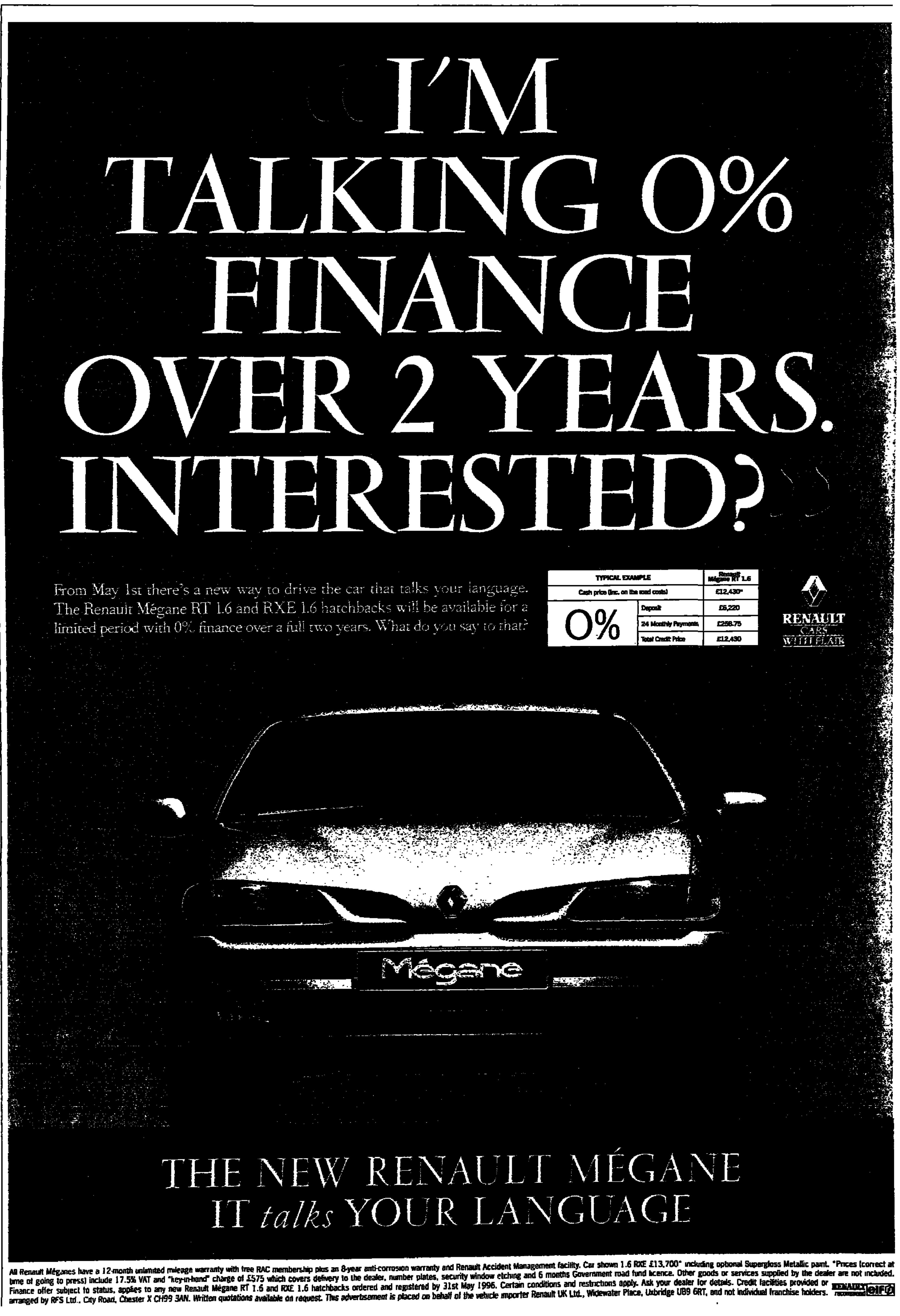
Newt Gingrich's "revolution" was inspired by intellectuals, but there are no gurus in the Dole camp. He may now be plain Mr Dole of Kansas but his advisers are strategists, politicians and Washington insiders.

His inner circle is tiny. His "number one adviser" is his wife, Elizabeth, a former Cabinet secretary, political to her fingernails. He puts unusual trust in his campaign manager, Scott Reed, 36, a former windsurfing instructor who became the Republican National Committee's executive director. His alter ego is his long-serving Senate chief of staff, Sheila Burke, a pro-choice moderate hated by the Right.

Another key member is the campaign treasurer, Robert Lighthizer, a bright young Washington lawyer and trade hawk who must keep afloat a campaign that has spent at least $36 million of the $37 million permitted before August's party convention.

☐ **Taking the lead:** The race to succeed Mr Dole as Senate leader has narrowed to Trent Lott, Republican whip and favourite, and Thad Cochran, both from Mississippi.

Unsettled Bill, magazine



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Frail pontiff defies the doomsayers and doctors who are predicting journey's end

Pilgrim Pope travels on

VATICAN FILE
by RICHARD OWEN

THE Pope celebrates his 76th birthday today by defying his doctors and doing what he likes best: travelling abroad.

Instead of spending the day in the Vatican contemplating his remarkable path from Polish labourer-priest to Pope, or the stiff joints and bouts of ill health that spell the twilight of his papacy, John Paul II is in Slovenia, drawing energy from a huge youth rally at Postojna airfield and a Mass at Ljubljana hippodrome.

Last month it was Tunisia, next month it will be Germany. Earlier this year he was in Central America; later he plans to visit Budapest and Paris, and perhaps Sarajevo. Slovenia is his 71st trip abroad since becoming Pope in 1978, and his first to former Yugoslavia (apart from a brief stopover in Zagreb two years ago).

An exhibition of photographs recording the travels of the "Pilgrim Pope" has just opened in the Vatican Library. The organisers dismiss criticism that the one million kilometres he has clocked up cost too much or are having a diminishing effect. "John Paul is determined to see in the millennium," one insider said. "He feels there is much left to be done."

Others put it differently: despite flashes of his old charisma (he is a former actor), the Pope is an elderly man. There are rumours he has either cancer or Parkinson's disease. His repeated intestinal troubles are a legacy of the attempt on his life 15 years ago this week, when the Turkish gunman Mehmet Ali Agca shot him in the stomach. The Pope met Ali Agca's mother this week; she urged him to intervene to have her son released from an Italian jail.

Ali Agca believes his failed shots were linked to the "secrets of Fatima", a vision seen by three Portuguese girls in 1917 in which the Virgin Mary allegedly predicted a Slav Pope who would bring down Communism and avert East-West nuclear war.

The Pope himself often mentions Our Lady of Fatima and presented the bullet which nearly killed him to her shrine. But he shows no sign of thinking his historic task is done. He is determined to use the time left to impose his conservative — some say, authoritarian — views on the Church in the 21st century, on matters from dissident theologians to women priests.

He is worried by the inroads made by other faiths and, closer to home, he is worried that Italy may enter the new century divided, thanks to Northern League separatism. At the Conference of Italian Bishops this week the Pope said that unity was "a precious inheritance of the Italian nation".

This is not the talk of a man thinking of resignation. In 1975, the age of cardinals eligible to elect a pope was limited to 80 and there has been speculation that this age limit may also be applied to the papacy. The Pope, however, says he will remain pontiff as long as God wants him to.

Unholy mess in square

EVERY day at 6am, when the Pope opens his window above St Peter's Square, Enrico Canfora starts work down below with his twig broom. Under the Lateran Treaty regulating relations between the Vatican and Italy, the Italian Government has to provide for "the maintenance and surveillance of St Peter's Square".

Surveillance is provided by the Carabinieri, and maintenance by Signor Canfora, 49. The Pope's regular Wednesday audiences, and his appearances on Sunday, are attended by pilgrims from all over the world, and afterwards the great square resembles a stadium after a football match, covered in cans, wrappers and other rubbish. Spanish, Mexican and East European visitors are the worst litterbugs, Signor Canfora says. He gets through a broom a week. He is hoping for reinforcements in time for the millennium, when Rome is expecting up to 40 million pilgrims and tourists.

The Pope leans on a crucifix at a Nicaraguan rally in February

Exorcist is seeking safe house

THE Vatican is baffled about what to do with its turbulent bishop, Mgr Emmanuel Milingo, known as the "Zambian witchdoctor" because of his mass exorcisms.

This year Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini, the Archbishop of Milan, banned Bishop Milingo from holding his controversial services in the Milan area, arguing that the mass hysteria caused by the bishop's "driving out of demons", which he refers to as healing, did not have official sanction.

Bishop Milingo, 66, was Archbishop of Lusaka until 1982, when his unusual style became too much even for Zambian Catholics, who "exiled" him to Rome. He has released an album of his "healing chants", called *Gubudu Gubudu* and mustered enough supporters to fill a 3,000-seat hall in Rome.

But his search for a permanent home continues: this week he was banned from Bracciano, a lakeside town in the hills near Rome, but was offered refuge in the little Ligurian town of Cervo on the *Riviera coast* by *Mario* Olivieri, Bishop of Albenga and Imperia. The Mayor of Cervo said there were so many North African immigrants on the Riviera that "colour is not important to us, even in a bishop".

Ono: says her gesture was symbolic

Torn Bible gets Yoko into dean's bad books

From Quentin Letts
in New York

THE singer Yoko Ono tore pages from a Bible towards the end of a New York concert and handed them to members of the audience.

Miss Ono, who has a well-established sense of self-publicity, said that her gesture was intended to be a symbol for the "sharing of God's words". She tore the Bible at Irving Plaza, New York, where she was performing on a 17-city tour of America.

Her spokesman, Eliot Mintz, added that John Lennon's widow "has never shied away from artistic controversy". Sure enough, the Catholic League said it considered tearing the Bible "not appropriate at all", while Ray Naugle, dean of the graduate school at Lancaster Bible College, Pennsylvania, said the incident smacked of attention-seeking. "We are opposed to the desecration of the holy word of God," he said.

Miss Ono, 63, has previously shown little missionary zeal, even though in the Sixties, John Lennon said the Beatles were more popular than Jesus Christ. *In an earlier concert on* her tour she ripped pages from an encyclopaedia and handed them out to fans. She was performing at Tuesday night's concert with her son, Sean Lennon, and his band, Ima.

Bishop in US bars believers who back birth control

From Giles Whittell
in Los Angeles

A BISHOP in Nebraska has become the first in America to use the Roman Catholic Church's ultimate deterrent, excommunicating believers who refuse to cut their ties with groups advocating birth control and a greater role in the Church for women.

In a bitter row that threatens to broaden into a national rift, Bishop Fabian Bruskewitz has banned Catholics in his diocese from membership of 12 organisations including Planned Parenthood, which is the equivalent of Britain's Family Planning Association, the Freemasons and two Catholic girls' groups.

The ban, and the penalty of automatic excommunication, went into effect this week. About 30 members of a progressive Catholic group, known as Call To Action, and a number of others, instantly found themselves barred from taking Communion.

Jim McShane, a Professor of English and a lifelong Catholic who supports Call To Action's demand for consideration of women and married clergy, likened his excommunication to "spiritual capital punishment".

"It's grim," he said, admitting he feared for the state of his soul. "We have to find a way out of this. I cannot imagine walking away from the Catholic Church."

Bishop Bruskewitz said it was the first time Catholic authorities had carried out a threat of mass excommunication since the Vatican forbade Italians from membership of both the Church and the country's Communist Party in the late 1940s.

Known as one of America's most conservative Catholic leaders, the bishop has stopped short of drawing up lists of dissidents. In an interview with *The Times*, he offered "dialogue, conversation and prayer" to draw them back into the Church, but insisted they had incurred the ultimate sanction "by their own action, not mine".

Far from capitulating, Mr McShane and others are fighting back. One former priest and his wife, a former nun, vowed on Wednesday to continue taking Communion in defiance of the bishop's order. Call To Action lampooned his bizarre edict that women may read aloud from the Bible in Church, but only if they wear loose-fitting blouses, and never in his presence.

Vatican silences priest

Madrid: A Jesuit priest who works as religious affairs correspondent of the Spanish daily newspaper *Diario 16* has been banned from journalism by the Vatican (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

Father Pedro Miguel Lamet, a member of the Society of Jesus, angered Cardinal Angelo Sodano, the Vatican's Secretary of State, by an article on the Pope's health which went into extensive detail about his having colon cancer. Father Lamet had already published a biography of the Pope, *Hombre y Papa*, in which his health was scrutinised.

There are few subjects more delicate in the Vatican, so neither the article nor the book was received with enthusiasm. Cardinal Sodano complained to Peter Hans Kolvenbach, the Superior-General of the Society of Jesus, and Father Lamet was instructed to cease writing.

In a compromise, he has now been told he may write non-religious articles, which must pass Church censors.

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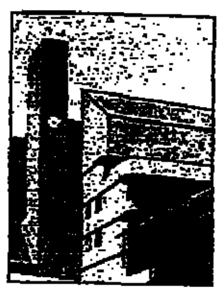

■ OPINION

The British Library disaster is a warning of what could happen to countless lottery projects

■ OPERA

Mozart's *Die Entführung* comes back to Covent Garden, superbly conducted by Sir Colin Davis

THE TIMES ARTS

■ ON MONDAY

Glyndebourne's bold new staging of Handel's *Theodora*: Rodney Milnes gives his verdict

■ NEXT WEEK

Degas of the day: *The Times* celebrates the opening of a great show at the National Gallery

A great read; pity about the library

Yes it hurt. No it still doesn't work. That just about sums up what the National Audit Office had to say this week about the greatest public building project of our age, in a devastating report which our fearless auditors wittily called *Progress in Completing the New British Library*.

Progress? Completion? Hold the front page! This is hot news. I thought the project was so overdue that it was heading for the largest library fines in history.

Where might a good British Librarian file this extraordinary document? Next to Kafka's *The Trial* on the Living Nightmares shelf? Alongside *Run For Your Wife* in the Long-Running Farces department? Close to *The Rake's Progress* in the Anthologies of Dismal Fecklessness section?

It's hard to choose. The NAO prose style is not exactly fruity with metaphor, yet some sentences send the reader's brain spinning into phantasmagorical realms hitherto only inhabited by the likes of Salvador Dali. The film rights ought to be sold to Ken Russell.

For instance, tucked away on page 45 is the fact that, by April last year, the project's quality-control team had "identified over 230,000 items needing correction". Good grief — and I thought the firm that did my double-glazing had gone bust.

So many things were wrong, it seems, that "a new computerised system was introduced at a cost of £49,000 to record all items to be rectified". Yes, dear readers, that's the price of a small semi, just to find a machine capable of writing down all the mistakes without blowing itself up in a fit of indignation. But what is £49,000 in a budget of £496 million?

I suppose it says something for the honesty of British public life that such a report has been published at all. I cannot imagine any prospective overseas customers, after looking into this can of bookworms, wanting to hire British managers, workmen or architects ever again.

But of course the honesty comes at a price: nobody is castigated by name. A handful of government departments and agencies sidle in and out of the 20-year story, plus some of the biggest names in the building trade, plus innumerable teams of management consultants. But when you reach the end of this messy tale, you feel as if you have ploughed through a complicated whodunnit only to find the vital last chapter is missing. Who *are* the guilty men? We are not told. We never will be.

Not for the first time in modern Britain, President Truman's useful phrase — "the buck stops here" — seems crucially absent from the discussion. Which is odd, because all the worst mistakes in the

IN THE ARTS

RICHARD MORRISON

British Library construction happened in the 1980s, when the "smack of firm leadership" was much in fashion.

What now? Well, there is an urgent need to learn from this ghastly fiasco, rather than indulging in a witch-hunt — amusing though that might be. For the incredible fact is that we now have *dozens* of potential British Library-style debacles on our hands. I refer, of course, to the vast, lottery-funded redevelopments of our culture-palaces. Who's in charge of making sure that the public gets a good deal for its money on that lot? Who will do the painstaking check on ten million tiny details in a hundred different building projects, all of them being constructed simultaneously?

The short answer is nobody. The scale of the lottery handouts is too gargantuan to allow for scrupulous policing. Some projects may fail for want of strong leadership; the Greenwich Millennium Exhibition, for instance, already seems to be in disarray. Others will be fleeced by knaves and cowboys. Others will fall years behind schedule, because nobody feels rushed when "only public money" is involved.

So in a couple of decades' time we will doubtless find ourselves discussing another damning National Audit Office report, chronicling how the "lottery dream" went horribly wrong. And we will probably shake our heads sadly and say: "What on earth were they *playing at* in the mid-1990s?" The answer, of course, will be that we all thought the buck stopped somewhere else.

Meanwhile, am I alone in feeling that there is something a little dodgy about this week's lottery award of £40 million to the Royal Albert Hall? Probably I am, for the grand old pile in South Ken is still held in considerable esteem. But what irritates me is the Albert Hall's persistent claim to be the "nation's village hall": a slogan designed to convey an image of a friendly, classless place.

In fact, hundreds of the Albert Hall's prime seats and boxes are owned in perpetuity by private individuals and corporations, who can occupy their places at any time, who guard their debentures jealously, and have a large — and not entirely helpful — say in the governing of the hall.

This bizarre arrangement, which dates back to the hall's foundation, is both archaic and anarchic. Abolishing the system forthwith — if necessary by compulsory purchase orders — should have been a mandatory condition of the £40 million handout. After all, the place is either a public venue deserving of vast public funds, or it isn't. But such a notion would clearly be too dangerous and egalitarian for Lord Gowrie's Arts Council or Lord Rothschild's National Heritage Memorial Fund to contemplate.

OPERA: **Rodney Milnes** on the work which proves that even geniuses sometimes get it wrong

Too many notes, dear Mozart

Die Entführung aus dem Serail
Covent Garden

DONALD COOPER

Peter Bronder and Kurt Rydl tackle early Mozart — with varying degrees of success — in Elijah Moshinsky's production

In the old days Mozart's early comedy was played and recorded as often as *The Magic Flute* and the Da Ponte trilogy, but in recent years it seems to have fallen slightly in general esteem. It hasn't been heard at Glyndebourne or any of the regional companies for many a season; ENO has cancelled next season's new production; Elijah Moshinsky's Royal Opera staging had gone missing for eight years before Thursday's revival.

There are obvious short-term reasons, such as the difficulty of casting it adequately, but I wonder if it does not go a bit deeper than that: are we nervously realising that it is not actually a very good piece, especially at a time when the stock of Mozart's other early comedy, *La finta giardiniera*, is rising so fast? The basic problem is the imbalance between the glorious music that Mozart, determined to floor the public at his Viennese debut, lavished on a trivial libretto out of stock. Too many of the arias and set numbers go on just that mite too long for their dramatic context (compare and contrast with the *Flute*). "An awful lot of notes, my dear Mozart," said the Emperor Joseph II, and he had a point.

Had a lesser composer set the libretto at a pantomime or opéra comique level, there would be no problem, except that we would not be listening to the results today. But it's by Mozart, and we are, so if the piece is to be taken at all seriously, what are we to do with Belmonte, one of most unpleasant heroes in all opera? And with Osmin? Play him as a figure of farce? Go against the music and play him in deadly earnest? Either choice is offensive, if not dangerous at a time when fatwahs fly. And the general level of humour is decidedly, well, Teutonic.

Despite a feint in the direction of disarming period theatrical artifice with false proscenium and float-lights, Moshinsky goes for an elaborate naturalism that the piece surely cannot sustain. This renegade Pasha with a semi-Westernised court simply would not fall for the fake-architect routine, and when Belmonte tries to loosen his fetters and is threatened by a guard with a rifle, we are in a world utterly alien to that proposed by the Stephanie-Bretzner libretto. The problem is compounded by casting the Pasha with an actorish actor in no way credible as a figure of the Enlightenment.

Oh, never mind (but I do) — it all looks very pretty in the Sidney Nolan-Timothy O'Brien decor, with Nolan's drop-cloth for *Martern aller Arten* providing a startling foretaste of some of Nigel Lowery's for the *Ring*. And it all sounds lovely, with Colin Davis at his most genial in the pit. His tempos are lively without ever sounding hurried, balance is perfectly contrived with woodwind always to the fore, and he and the orchestra make the accompanied recitatives sound almost as good as those in *Idomeneo*.

Inger Dam-Jensen is an irresistible Blondchen, musical, sweet-toned up to top E. Kurt Streit's well-schooled tenor is just right for Belmonte, and he side-steps the challenge of the character with boyish charm. Peter Bronder sings strongly as Pedrillo, and delivers traditional Viennese comedy with devastating efficiency. Kurt Rydl is a relentlessly loud Osmin, missing the humour in the music and falling fatally between the *stools of farce and menace*. Eva Mei has the notes for Constanze — some of them a little vinegary — and with luck fuller musical appreciation of them will follow soon.

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

SARAH FRANCIS

Profession: Novelist

Age: 25

Getting there: "When I was little, I always had my head stuck in a book," she remembers. Later, at Oxford University, she puzzled the English dons by showing signs of creativity in her essays rather than citing critical opinions. However, it was only after university that Francis, frustratedly working in a bookshop on Charing Cross Road, put pen to paper to produce fiction. Her first novel *Odd Fish and Englishmen* is published by Little, Brown this week.

What is it about? *Odd Fish* is a modern fable about a quietly wild Irish girl, with curious mermaidy habits, who weds and is taken home by a cold, stiff English doctor. She drowns her sorrows in drink and long baths. "It is about the destructiveness of inhibitions, the need to be free and true to yourself," Francis says.

Roots: Francis grew up in a tiny Yorkshire farming village, then went to school in Surrey (Cranleigh). Further back, though, the family is Irish and Welsh: no writers but national rugby players and a grandmother who was an alcoholic lacemaker, married to a doctor with beautiful hands. "I went out of my way not to make the novel autobiographical," she says, "but some intriguing family details have sneaked in."

On her work: "Writing is a way of seeing things in my own way. I like things I can do by myself. I work during the day, not in night frenzies, because I want to do this for the rest of my life and to have a life besides writing books."

KATE BASSETT

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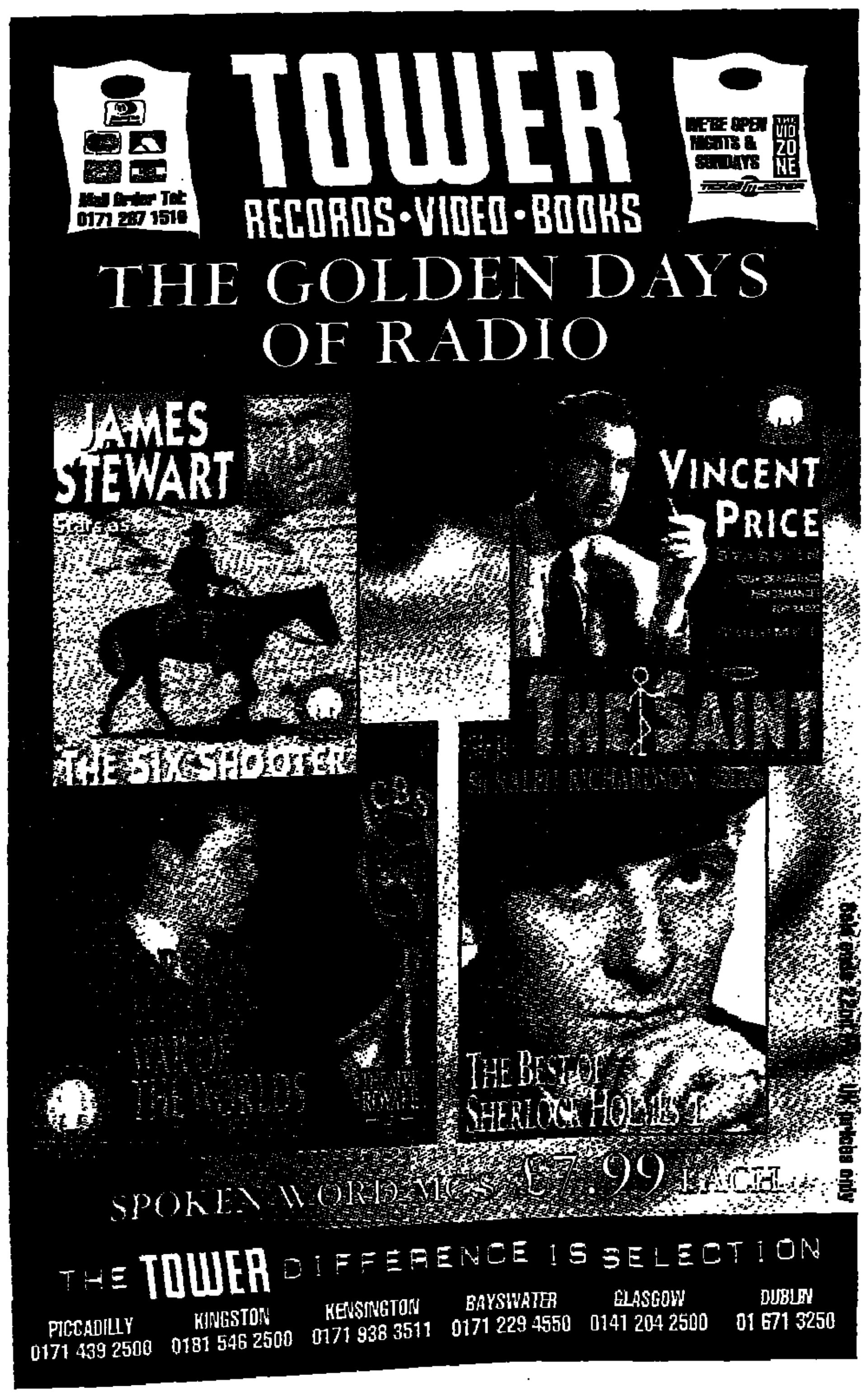

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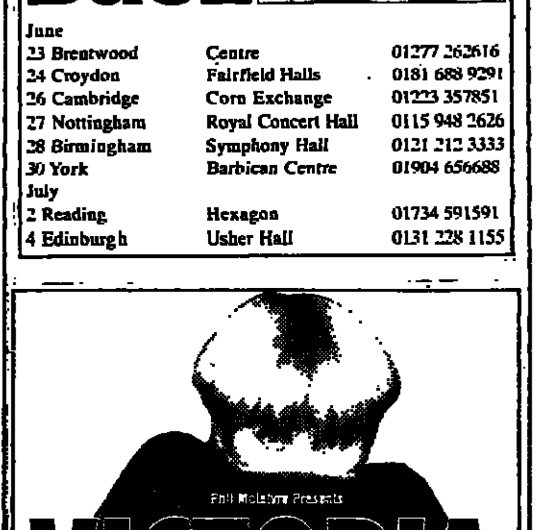

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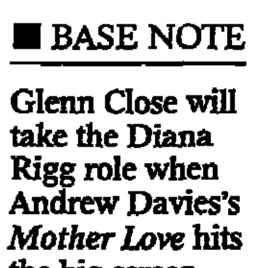
■ THEATRE 1

My dog and I: the American dramatist A.R. Gurney discusses the origins of his new play

■ THEATRE 2

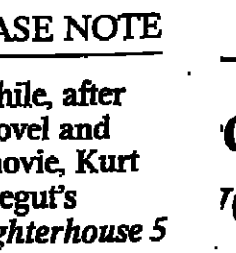
Too measured by half? At Stratford the Royal Shakespeare Company stages the Scottish play

THE TIMES ARTS



■ BASE NOTE

Glenn Close will take the Diana Rigg role when Andrew Davies's *Mother Love* hits the big screen



■ BASE NOTE

. . . while, after the novel and the movie, Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse 5* is turned into opera

BASE NOTES

HOT from the Cannes Festival comes news that **Glenn Close** will star this autumn in a $12 million feature film of *Mother Love*, the black comedy by **Andrew Davies** that was broadcast by the BBC several years ago in a production starring **Diana Rigg**. The film will be produced by **Norma Heyman**; no director has yet been announced.

● HERE'S an interesting film pairing: **Kenneth Branagh** and **Annette Bening**. The two will meet in the forthcoming film *The Gingerbread Man*, to be directed by **John Dahl**, who had a hit two years ago with his film noir *The Last Seduction*. The new film will be written by **John Grisham**, the novelist behind the Hollywood blockbusters *The Client* and *The Firm*.

● **Clive Owen** and the French-Canadian actor **Lothaire Bluteau** will head the cast of *Bent* when **Martin Sherman**'s play about the Nazi persecution of homosexuals in Germany starts filming in July. The director is **Sean Mathias**, who is making his feature film debut after several years of theatre success here and on Broadway.

● **Kurt Vonnegut**'s novel *Slaughterhouse 5*, which inspired a film more than 20 years ago, is now becoming an opera. The German composer **Hans-Jürgen von Bose** has based his new opera on Vonnegut's story of the American soldier Billy Pilgrim, who survived the bombing of Dresden by hiding in a city slaughterhouse. *Slaughterhouse 5* receives its premiere at the Bayerische Staatsoper in Munich on July 1; it will be conducted by the British maestro **Paul Daniel**, music director-designate of English National Opera.

● **Steven Berkoff** is to stage *Coriolanus* at the Mermaid Theatre for an eight-week season. Berkoff stars in the title role, as well as producing and directing. This is the first time Berkoff's production will be seen in London; it made its debut in New York in 1988 with **Christopher Walken** in the title role and was staged last year at the West Yorkshire Playhouse in Leeds. Mounting such a production at the Mermaid, a theatre which has been dark for long spells, is a gamble, but Berkoff is optimistic. "It's an attempt to take a white elephant of a theatre and give it some artistic credibility," he explains. *Coriolanus* opens on June 12.

THEATRE: A. R. Gurney tells **Benedict Nightingale** about the inspiration for his new play. Plus, the RSC *Macbeth*

DONALD COOPER

Life in the old dog: A.R. Gurney got the idea for *Sylvia* after his wife objected to his buying a labrador called Lucy. Today, "they tolerate each other"

Life's a bitch, then a play

I had an odd encounter with the actress Zoë Wanamaker in A.R. Gurney Jr's New York apartment the other day. Or, more precisely, I met the beguiling Lucy, who inspired the character Wanamaker plays in Gurney's comedy, *Sylvia*, which opens at the Apollo on Monday.

She trotted happily up, dropped the cushion she was carrying in her mouth, and biffed my knee in a friendly sort of way. Then she started to play with a disintegrating object that appeared to be part ball, part woolly comforter. I gave her a pat, and she rolled onto her back, inviting me to stroke her stomach. I do not recall Wanamaker behaving like that on the previous occasions I have met her.

But then Lucy is a dog, as is the title-character of Gurney's play. Actually, she is a sleek black labrador and classier than Sylvia by some way. Wanamaker will be embodying a grubby stray who is half poodle, half God-knows-what, and has a tendency to use non-pedigree language, especially when confronted with cats.

At 65, Gurney is one of America's finest dramatists. Plays such as *The Dining Room* and *The Cocktail Hour*, which took a wry look at genteel New England, have won him a reputation as the bard of the fingerbowl classes, the chronicler of a dying Wasp culture. But he has been broadening his range recently, not least in *Sylvia*, though he describes it as "a *jeu d'esprit*" and says he never expected to see it performed.

The play had its origins in somewhat acrimonious arguments with his wife of 38 years. You can see Mrs Gurney's point. The two of them had finished bringing up their children, moved from the country to the city — and what did Gurney proceed to do? He bought Lucy at the very time when his wife had been looking forward to a bit of city freedom in the couple's declining years.

That decision has brought trouble outside as well as in the family, for the dog-police have been cracking down on New Yorkers who let their pets off the leash in Central Park. Recently Gurney himself was arrested and fined $100. But Lucy did also give him the inspiration for *Sylvia*.

The play, Gurney says, is about the conflicts that occur in a marriage when the wife launches into a career at a time when the husband is becalmed and getting a bit male-menopausal, "and I think it's also about instinct and the need for instinctual expression in an urban environment". But he did not launch into writing it with any such conscious aims. He wanted to play theatrical games, Ayckbourn-style, with a walking, talking yet recognisably canine dog.

The dog had to be female, or *Sylvia* would have ended up a buddy-play or taken on gay resonances Gurney did not especially want. However, this brought predictable problems when the finished piece was shown to producers who had always been sympathetic to his work. Ask a woman to play a subservient pet? Ask a self-respecting actress to be a mongrel who has fleas and calls her master "God"? Didn't Gurney know that this was America 1995, not the Garden of Eden in its patriarchal phase?

But the director John Tillinger, a friend and dog-lover, took the script to the prestigious Manhattan Theatre Club. A reading followed, at which the actress Sarah Jessica Parker demonstrated that Sylvia need be neither cute nor morally objectionable. And New York audiences agreed, keeping the play running for months and never voicing a single word of complaint.

Gurney is a scion of a Buffalo clan that belonged to gentlemen's clubs and went to private schools and deb-parties. But he also remembers standing at the water's edge and watching steamers which would once have stopped in the city drift on to Detroit or Chicago. He saw a great port and major centre dwindle into stately, shabby obscurity. As a result he has, as he says, tended to write about "decline, decay, decadence at a time when the stronger tradition in Anerican letters is the hunger for success, the rise of the successful, the *Great Gatsby* story".

He has sometimes been made to feel guilty for dwelling on themes he can hardly evade. He thinks it a bit unfair that he is categorised as a Wasp dramatist when Neil Simon is not pigeonholed as a Jewish one. His first play, *Children*, actually had a successful premiere in London after a New York producer said it needed simultaneous translation for New Yorkers. "And Wasps are still the one ethnic group you can attack with impunity. On American television the Wasp always seems to be the natty lawyer who ends up as a murderer."

Gurney does not apologise for his background or his interests; but he does feel he may have said what he has to say about social obsolescence. It is time for what he calls "a stretch". *Sylvia* has been part of that, as has an updating of *The Merchant of Venice*, with a gay Italian Antonio, an Irish Bassanio and a black Gratiano contributing to the multicultural picture. In fact, the last four years have been busy ones for Gurney. They have also brought an adaptation of Henry James's *Beast in the Jungle*, an "anti-bourgeois" play called *The Fourth Wall*, a staging of stories by John Cheever, and a version of the operetta *The Count of Luxembourg* built round Cole Porter songs.

Gurney is also working on a film-script of *Sylvia* for Jessica Parker and, conceivably, Steve Martin. No wonder there is contentment in the way Lucy snuffles and waves her paws in the air. She may still barely be on speaking terms with Gurney's wife — "they tolerate each other," says Gurney — but she is on her way to becoming a very celebrated dog.

Is this a bore I see before me?

Macbeth
RST, Stratford

PRODUCTIONS of Shakespeare can stick in the memory for the oddest detail: David Warner playing Hamlet with his long woolly scarf; Mark Rylance's pyjama-clad Hamlet baring his bum; Roger Allam's Benedick puffing at a cheroot inside a hollow tree. My guess is that Tim Albery's production of the Scottish play, in which Allam plays Macbeth and Brid Brennan his Lady, will be known in future years as the one with the marvellous Porter.

The lights come up in the auditorium as Adrian Schiller, wearing Lurex pinstripes, drunkenly weaves his way along the battlements of Stewart Laing's set. Both his body language and tongue-twisting dexterity are brilliant. "I pray you, remember the porter," he tells us, and we will, but it is an odd tragedy that can be remembered as a comedy.

Albery puts the men into early 20th-century uniforms, the women in early medieval sheath-dresses, and places them on a skewed ramp against a back-curtain painted with crows making to the rooky wood; later there are bare walls and plain doors; later still, a view of burning landscapes disjointedly assembled like a Magritte and probably representing Hell.

So far, so severe, and it is a severity that extends to Allam, who picks his way with obvious care along the glittering rollercoaster of his lines, but very seldom through his voice conveys mental turmoil. Dulled human feeling, an inner landscape turned to desert — these his voice suggests as he sits, staring grimly towards us. He does cry out, to the Doctor, at the banquet, but these occasions stick out like a soar throat against what I presume to be Albery's bleak conception of the role.

How Albery conceives the play as a whole is a mystery. His production is spare — no cauldron, no Birnam branches — and during the second half becomes seriously dull. The English scene is uninteresting until Colum Convey's Macduff breaks down, at something like the 220th line.

Arthur Cox gives a bluff charm to Duncan and brings gravity and alarm to the Doctor. Philip Quast's Banquo speaks well, and so do the Witches, three elderly ladies with wintry expressions: Janet Whiteside, Susannah Elliott-Knight, Jan Chappell.

Brennan's Lady is virtually a fourth witch — you can picture her digging eyes out of a living newt — and her hands, like her husband's, are eloquent. Her sleepwalking cry sends a frisson of terror up the spine. But, despite a scattering of sharply invented moments, the evening is predominantly one of dignified responses, measure and decorum. This does not seem right.

JEREMY KINGSTON

DONALD COOPER

Lady Macbeth (Brid Brennan) and her murderous husband (Roger Allam) in Tim Albery's glacial *Macbeth*

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We succour Bushmen at their peril

Isolation is a desert tribe's only hope, says **Bruce Anderson**

The Kalahari desert in Botswana is not as implacable as the Sahara or the Gobi. But it is a harsh environment, which makes the Bushmen of the Kalahari all the more remarkable. Over the millennia, they have learnt to survive in conditions which would kill the average Westerner in a couple of days.

But the Bushmen are now under threat. The Government of Botswana wants their land for tourism. It has offered to resettle them in villages or towns, but that would mean the destruction of their way of life. In two respects, the Botswanan attitude is typical of modern Africa. There is the assumption that the only worthwhile economic development is along Western lines, and the — not unjustified — belief that Westerners feel a romantic affinity with primitive tribes, and wish that the continent was still peopled with noble savages.

Few Botswanans have any interest in preserving the Bushmen's culture. Even if the reports of stock theft are exaggerated, it does occur, and poor peasants who have valuable animals stolen cannot be expected to react like Fellows of the Royal Geographical Society. Most Botswanans are no more sympathetic to the Bushmen than most Lowland Scots of the early 18th century were to the Highlanders.

On Thursday, another primeval and endangered tribe came to the Bushmen's defence: there was a debate in the House of Lords, designed to put pressure on the Botswanan Government. Lady Chalker told her fellow peers there was nothing to worry about: she had received assurances from the Botswanan authorities (you have to say that sort of thing if you are a Foreign Office minister). In the politest possible way, their lordships were unimpressed. To be fair to Lynda Chalker, she seemed happy to give ground; the British High Commissioner would be instructed to investigate the matter.

Though more than twice the size of Britain, Botswana is a tiny country in population terms, with a reasonable Government. There is still a good deal of British influence. It is one of the few countries in which the course of events could change as a result of the Lords debate, so perhaps the present scheme will be halted. But the threat will remain. The advanced world and the Bushmen cannot live together.

Every day, the Bushman confronts the struggle for survival. After hours of tracking — hours of skill, patience and endurance — what is his reward? A few grubs, a rodent, a frog, a bird, roots and berries, a very occasional buck; brackish water. Sometimes the hunting fails. Bushmen die of hunger and thirst, which the West could alleviate in an instant; they die of diseases and injuries which our medicine could easily cure and heal. But we succour them at their peril.

If they realised that food need not be hunted; that it could come out of a tin, just as water could come from a tap — for how long would they retain their skills? If they realised that there were aid agencies with money which could provide previously unimaginable comforts, how long would their self-respect last? If they became aware — this is the hardest of all — that children who die in the desert could easily be saved in the town, how long would it be before they moved to the town?

So far, the dangers have been avoided: just. On occasions, the Bushmen's neighbours have been at least as cruel to them as earlier Australians were to the Aborigines, but fortunately Botswana is neither rich enough nor guilt-ridden enough to complete the act of destruction with handouts and welfare.

So far, also, the Bushmen have shown no desire to trade their precarious subsistence for an easier life, much to the incomprehension of the Botswanan Government, which cannot believe that anyone would choose to live as the Bushmen do. But a few more years of exposure to the temptations of civilisation, and the Botswanans' scepticism would surely be vindicated. How long could the Bushmen survive television? They have survived up to now because the Kalahari is remote, but with modern communications and tourism, the concept of the remote has almost been abolished. The Bushmen will be at risk until they are segregated.

It is not enough to thwart a particular scheme. We have to persuade, and bribe, the Botswanan authorities to fence off a huge area as a Bushman reserve, denying access not only to fire-water, missionaries and tourists, but to aid workers and most doctors as well. This may sound a more appropriate means of dealing with an endangered animal species than with members of the human race. But what is the alternative?

The Bushmen may benefit from two otherwise deplorable Western tendencies: self-hatred and sentimentalism. The self-hatred applies to colonialism. Our forebears were confident in their right to save subject peoples' souls and rule their bodies; in so doing they brought great advantages to most of the territories they governed.

But it is no longer fashionable to say so; per contra, it may be easier to argue that the Bushmen must be left alone. The sentiment comes from Sir Laurens van der Post, who believes that the West could learn from the Bushmen. This is nonsense. All the virtues he ascribes to them can also be found in Christianity. After two millennia of sinfulness, we are not about to be instructed by hunter-gatherers from the Kalahari. But the belief that the Bushmen have a special residue of wisdom may also be used to justify special treatment.

As long as we are never naïve enough to believe that they could be relied on to behave as Sir Laurens would wish them to: living on the fringes of civilisation, but remaining immune to it. That would make them either subhuman or super-human; they are neither. There is only one solution: to turn that fringe of civilisation into a fence.

Bruce Anderson is political columnist of The Spectator.

Michael Gove on communitarianism, the fashionable ideology that has bewitched Left and Right

New community is merely old coercion

There is a spectre haunting political debate — the spectre of communitarianism. A novel, and, to the public, still hazy, political philosophy — its woolliness perfect for new Labour — it is the sheep's clothing which cloaks the Left's fundamental desire to boss.

Three evangelists have brought communitarianism out of the academy and onto the hustings: the American Amitai Etzioni, and the Britons David Selbourne and John Gray. A philosophical critique of liberalism has become a political programme, heard in Jack Straw's assaults on vagrants, Gordon Brown's compulsory labour schemes for the unemployed and Tony Blair's rhetoric of responsibilities.

The tone of voice used by communitarian thinkers is deliberately cosy, a mix of the homespun and homiletic. Couching its lessons in the language of the hearth or pulpit, communitarianism deploys tones both moral and conservative to disarm opponents. It also tries to tap into nostalgia for an age of shared values and settled patterns of employment, by suggesting that the security we associate with a time now past (and usually mythical) can be gently massaged back into existence. But the political reality of communitarianism is coercion. In the name of the community, individual rights are curtailed, agencies empowered to intervene and the State encouraged to regulate.

One of the appeals of communitarianism to new Labour is its ability to appear at the same time reassuringly traditional in tone and also attractively novel in comparison to "failed" political theories. Communitarians parody the old Left as apologists of a something-for-nothing society and the new Right as devil-take-the-hindmost individualists. Tony Blair's success in suggesting that new Labour has somehow evolved beyond Left and Right, and has become a "one nation" party, is a tribute to the influence of communitarianism. It is also a reproof to the Right, who used to occupy both the territory where new political ideas were developed and the patriot's solid ground.

This week, however, sees signs of a fightback. The ascendancy of communitarianism has provoked a response from two Conservative thinkers in pamphlets published this week: Damian Green's *Communities in the Countryside* (Social Market Foundation, £10) and John Marenbon's *Answering the Challenge of Communitarianism* (Politeia, £7.50).

The two tracts reflect the backgrounds of the two authors. Dr Marenbon is a Cambridge don, whose polymathic range encompasses English literature, medieval philosophy and modern political thought. Mr Green is a former Downing Street policy adviser, now prospective parliamentary candidate for the safe seat of Ashford. Dr Marenbon's pamphlet takes on communitarianism as a political philosophy, while Mr Green's paper concentrates on concrete policy suggestions.

The two papers also betray the authors' distinct ideological assumptions. Mr Green is a man of the Tory Left, and, in the tradition of Macmillan and Heath, he seeks an accommodation with the enemy. They sought a constructive rather than a confrontational relationship with organised labour, and Mr Green tries the same technique with communitarians. He criticises, most wittily when he deprecates them for "decade abuse" — the lazy labelling of a period such as the Eighties as a time of unredeemed moral squalor. But Mr Green accepts the Etzioni analysis that the community has a "moral voice", and tries to provide Tory answers to its demands.

Many of his answers are attractive. Deregulation to allow a single village enterprise to be simultaneously corner shop, off-licence, post office and garage should ensure that each service is more likely to survive. Removing regulations in other areas — to allow villages more easily to provide their own policing, to keep education local and to experiment with *ad hoc* public transport — are also worthwhile. Mr Green recognises that this may mean "patchy provision" of such services, but argues that "we should revel in the unorthodox, the local quirk".

Quite so. But the quirky and the unorthodox are, by definition, the product of the enterprising individual. Mr Green argues for provision from the bottom up, but communitarianism seeks to stifle that spirit. As Dr Marenbon points out, in Etzioni's model, your neighbours will, unbidden, recommend you a gardener, should your lawn be insufficiently neat.

Dr Marenbon sees communitarianism for what it is, and takes it on. He pays it the compliment of recognising its appeal at a time of rapid economic change and dislocation. But he also sees that it is a licence for the perennial preoccupation of the Left, expansion of the role of government. From Peter Mandelson's state dowry to David Blunkett's plans to squeeze out selection, new Labour wants, in the name of community, to trammel the choices of individuals and families. Dr Marenbon goes on to argue persuasively that communitarianism threatens not only "individual autonomy" but also attacks "the integrity and survival of individual cultural and ethical traditions".

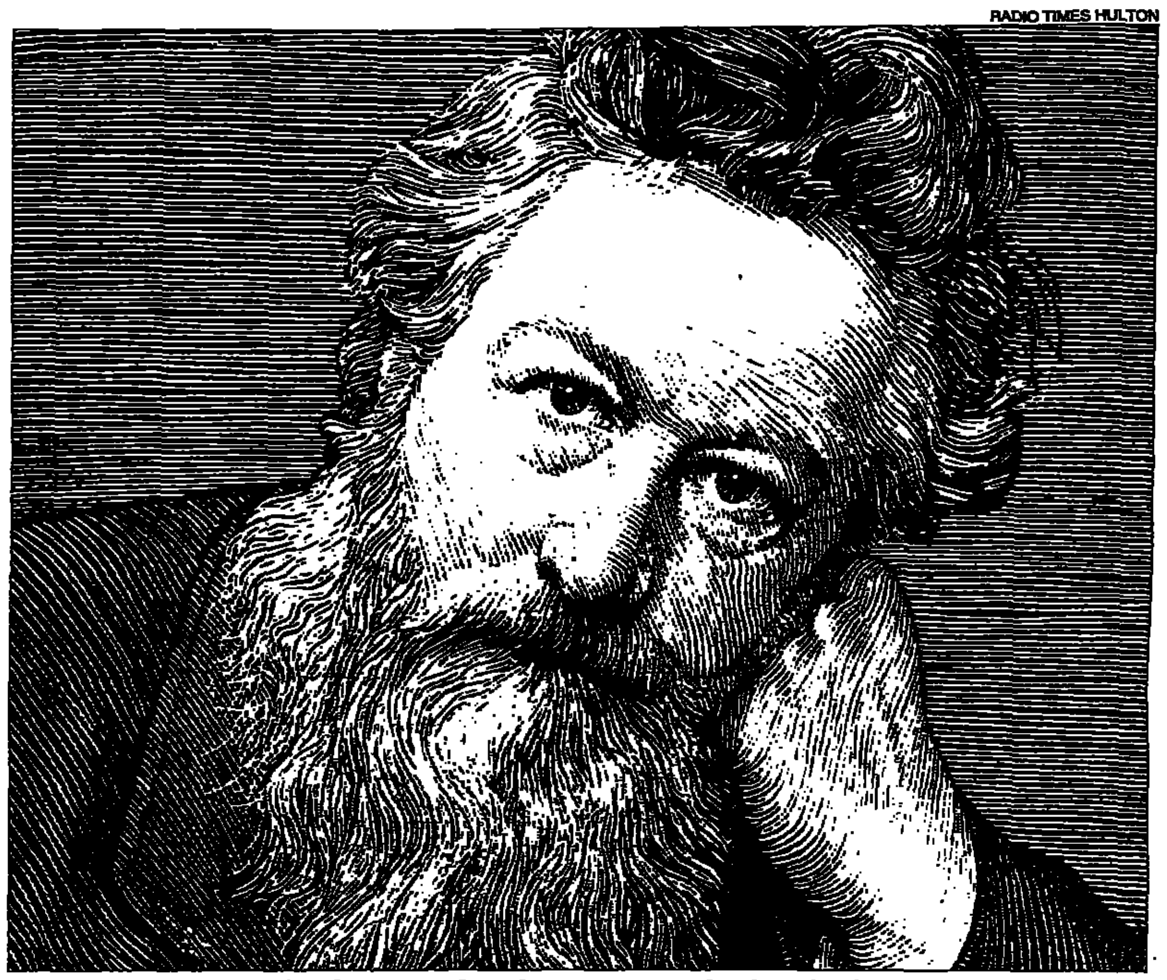
Dr Marenbon argues, instead, for a "medial state" which performs only those tasks for which there is an enduring acceptance of its role. It would go beyond the minimal state, in ensuring access to health services and education, but would not itself supply those goods, only the means to enjoy them, probably through vouchers. It is a bracing vision, and one for which few are now willing to argue; but if the ancient liberties which are the surest foundations of civil society are to survive and be strengthened, the smaller state will need articulate advocates in the months ahead.

The man who never stopped

William Morris's art defies attempts to debunk him as a hypocrite or to claim him as a Modernist

Simon Jenkins

RADIO TIMES HULTON



This woodcut by Bryden shows Morris as dreamer, poet and artist — but he was also a capitalist

The *William Morris* show at the Victoria and Albert Museum is a humbling experience. Most centuries bequeath great achievements. The 19th century bequeaths great lives. Even Lytton Strachey's Eminent Victorians grew taller as he debunked them. This week, Britain's art critics have tried to debunk William Morris, portraying him as a fey, Utopian, money-making hypocrite. Instead they have larded praise on the ludicrous brick artist, Carl Andre. To such twisted bathos has art criticism degenerated.

We sceptics are warned to steer clear of heroes, but Morris comes close to being mine. Quite apart from his art, I love his confidence, his success, his melancholy, his pragmatism, his vision, his zest for everything. I am sure I would have loved his wife, the glorious Janey Burden, ostler's daughter and icon of the Pre-Raphaelites. Morris was born in a Walthamstow villa, the son of a prosperous bank executive. When he died, exhausted, 62 years later in 1896, his doctor gave the cause as "being William Morris". Everyone knew what that meant.

Morris's life straddled the most astonishing era in British history. He began life rich, went to Oxford, met Burne-Jones and married Janey. He contemplated the Church, tried architecture, but became a designer and entrepreneur, fortunate in the friendship of a coterie of talent not seen in England since Lord Burlington's circle a century before.

Outside Stroud in Gloucestershire is the little hamlet of Selsley. Here, in 1862, the young architect J.F. Bodley asked Morris and his friends to design new windows for his church. The result, neglected on a Cotswold hill, is a dazzling gallery of works by Morris, Philip Webb, Burne-Jones, Madox Brown and Rossetti. It expresses their belief in the purity of natural materials. Not since the Middle Ages had glass been so liberated to capture and transmit colour.

By study and experiment, Morris and Burne-Jones had reinvented an art form. Their Victorian Renaissance was that of nature observed, refashioned in wood, stone, fabric, dye and paper. They were to the age what the Green movement is today, but being Victorians they practised what they preached. Morris collected his own herbs and bark, boiled his own dyes, carved his own blocks. The output of his firm appealed to a nation grown weary of mass production. Morris furniture and fabrics, stained glass and murals, carpets and tapestries came to cloak the walls and floors of England, and later of the Empire. They redecorated St James's Palace and gave flair to Victoriana. Morris never stopped. He was a Victorian Leonardo, Vanbrugh or Jefferson, one of those, said E.P. Thompson, "whom history will never overtake".

The exhibition concentrates on Morris the designer, but that is only half the man. Morris was always a figure of fun, emerging from Fiona MacCarthy's admirable biography as big-hearted yet inhibited and vulnerable. He was the more so when he lost Janey to the lascivious Rossetti, an infidelity tolerated since he believed sex to be abhorrent if not based on "natural desire and kindliness", and therefore presumably acceptable where it is.

Morris wrote nostalgic poetry by the ream. Like most of his generation (and perhaps ours) he saw in the past a key to social contentment and family happiness. He craved the simplicities of pre-industrial England: "Forget the spreading of the hideous town;/ Think rather of the pack-horse on the down." He wandered round his beloved country churches. Later in life he escaped Janey's escapades and explored Nordic Iceland.

Many critics find in this little but hypocrisy. Here was a rich man indulging in a rich man's fantasies. He was ignoring the prosperity that industrialisation had brought to the poor. He believed in a Utopia fashioned of medieval customs, crafts and privileges, one that later in life he offered as a socialist Utopia. Morris was hard in business, mercantile in trade and an out-and-out capitalist.

Yet there is a world of difference between an inconsistent life and a hypocritical one. No genius was ever consistent. Morris did not "cross the river of fire" to socialism until his fifties. The conversion was both naïve and furious. He read *Das Kapital* in French and later had Cobden-Sanderson bind it, "in deep turquoise leather with elaborate gilt-tooled decoration of buds and spots and stars". Webb duly declared *Das Kapital* "a beautiful work".

Morris raced from faction to faction, from anarchism to communism, from Social Democratic Federation to Socialist League. He pleaded with a friend "for statistics: I am but a poet and an artist, good for nothing but sentiment". He despised parliamentary democracy and espoused street uprising and revolution. His novel, *News from Nowhere*, is an undergraduate essay by a middle-aged man, autobiographically portraying a dream world in which men and women, town and country, art and industry, coexist in harmonious concord.

Yet we cannot judge such a human response to Victorian England from a century later. Morris's socialism was naïve, but it was from a heart worn on his sleeve. How much worse was the cruelty of his contemporaries.

For me this is of no account. Morris's supreme quality was his eye for the world about him. He advocated the direct study of the ancients, "or we shall be influenced by the feeble work all round us". He suffered none of today's "Past Shock" and would never have sneered at a historic building as a theme park. He pleaded for the continuity of British culture. In this cause he was a founder of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, of the Commons Preservation Society and a dozen other conservation groups.

Morris became the ultimate committee man. He wrote to *The Times*. He fulminated and organised and travelled. He had a furious row with the vicar of Burford church, who was about to "scrape" every inch of that medieval masterpiece. Yet Morris also sought to fill churches with modern masterpieces where appropriate. In contrast to most insipid Victorian windows, those of Morris and Co, usually designed by Burne-Jones, shine like jewels in the gloom (for example, Lyndhurst in Hampshire or St Michael's, Brighton). The aim of art, he said with his usual directness, "is to make a man's work happy and his rest fruitful". Fill your house, he advised, with nothing that is not beautiful or useful.

Morris, himself no great artist, was the ultimate applier of art to the practical world. There is a somewhat desperate attempt at the V&A show (aided by some quotes from Pevsner) to claim him as the "first Modernist". He was nothing of the sort. The essence of Modernism is terror of revivalism, a rejection of the past and a fear of its lessons, and worse its popularity. Morris fought such fear all his life. He showed that the simplest evocations of nature, the most endearing fantasies, could capture the imagination and leave their stamp on every English home.

My earliest encounter with him was gazing at a nursery wall as a child. A sinuous leaf spiralled upwards on its stalk, bursting occasionally into flower. The plant never seemed to end or grow tired. It needed no watering. I wondered that the sap could rise so high and the petals never fade. I was gazing at a Morris pattern, never forgotten because it was born of his "lavish treasure house of human hope".

More anon

THE TIMES DIARY

ANONYMOUS, the author of *Primary Colours*, the thinly fictionalised novel about President Clinton's presidential campaign in 1992, is breaking cover. In tomorrow's *New York Times*, Anonymous writes of his anonymity and the book's roaring success.

Having addressed the question of whether this Anonymous really is *the* Anonymous with the headline "No, Really, I Am Anonymous", he complains of "post-traumatic success disorder" and describes his strange new double life. "My spouse nuzzled my neck one evening," the author writes, "and asked, 'Can I . . . y'know . . . with Anonymous tonight?' It proved a distressingly memorable experience, though there was a metaphysical hangover: had I been unfaithful to myself."

In sum, however, Anonymous seems happy with the decision to remain unknown: "Anonymous is more demure and dignified than I am . . . anonymity imposes a strict discipline and an almost religious humility. I am a better person for having kept my mouth shut. And a freer one." From the furious house-building he is engaged in and his Delphic replies to questioning, the general consensus is that Anonymous is Joe Klein, the Washington Bureau Chief for *Newsweek*.

Bad nudes

PRUDES on Lambeth council have censored a performance by the French circus troupe Archaos to take place next week at the Brixton Academy. To the troupe's Globe of Death, in which motorcyclists chase each other at dizzying speeds, Lambeth said fine. To the wire-walkers, stuntmen and the entire French Olympic trampoline team, *pas de problème*. When it came to a naked man swinging in a cage, however, the council turned green.

"It goes against one of our miscellaneous regulations," said a spokesman for the council. "If they were in Soho, they might be able to get a licence, but we do not allow naked people in the Academy. We have suggested tights or a G-string to cover him up." Archaos have their trademark chainsaws out. "For Lambeth, this is raunchy erotica, but for us the naked man is an image of innocence."

● *Lord "Woy" Jenkins goes public next week for the first time about the speech impediment that has given rise to backstage sniggers throughout his political career. "It's a sort of semi-physical deficiency," he says on the BBC portrait* A Very Social Democrat. *"I am not claiming sympathy for it. A whole variety of people — like the old Lord Salisbury — have not been able to pronounce their R's very wuggedly. But that's perhaps a word I oughtn't to use too often."*

Deep-rooted

PONTEFRACT is in turmoil after the felling of 20 of the Queen's trees to make way for development. The trees which lined the Yorkshire town's racecourse were, to some minds, as essential to Pontefract as its liquorice cakes.

Having chopped them down without council permission, the Duchy of Lancaster, which owns the land, is backtracking. Roger Freeman, Chancellor of the Duchy, has apologised to Sir Geoffrey Lofthouse, Pontefract and Castleford's grizzled Labour MP, promising to replace the trees a.s.a.p.

Lofthouse, a former miner and formidable bruiser, is grudging. "I suppose it's a semi-victory," he growled. "But the site looks awful and you can't just get trees back, can you?"

Sizzling

REASSURING wafts of eggs and bacon have been floating across the Croisette in Cannes over the last few days. They are coming from a 120ft gin palace offshore, the preserve of the Soho Club, a London dive favoured by media types.

Most of their members were heading south for the film festival, so the club reckoned it might as well follow, hiring the yacht and serving all-day breakfasts on board. Among the hangover cases using *La Venezia* have been the pop singers Mick Jagger, Noel Gallagher and Chrissie Hynde.

One problem, however, is dogging the venture: a bolshie French crew. "Mutiny," mutters the club manager Mick Jones. "All the nine of them do all day is sit, drink coffee and moan." Unlike the club's members, of course.

Cannes do: Mick Jagger and Chrissie Hynde breakfast offshore

● *Florists are reporting a run on the new rose Madam Speaker, launched as a tribute to Betty Boothroyd to coincide with the Chelsea Flower Show. MPs are desperate to sport it in the buttonhole to catch the Speaker's eye at Question Time in the Commons. David Nicholson, Conservative MP for Taunton, has already sported the red rose in the chamber. "I had to take it off," he says, "I didn't want my constituents to think I was supporting Labour."*

Framed

WITH just days of married life left for the Duke and Duchess of York, they have been frozen out of the royal picture. Neither the couple nor the Princesses, Beatrice and Eugenie, feature in the new set of family postcards on sale in Balmoral gift shops.

The photographs, taken last summer at the Queen's Highland retreat, include snaps of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh with all their immediate family except for the Yorks and the Princess of Wales. "There is nothing sinister here at all," insists Buckingham Palace. "Prince Andrew and his two daughters were simply not available." Still, the exclusion must have come as a chilly foretaste of life to come.

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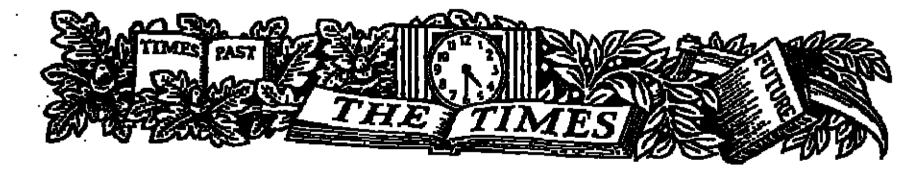


HISTORY'S DISPOSSESSED

From Indonesia to Kalahari: how to help the natives

The absorption or *subjugation* of indigenous peoples by encroachers on their land — the choice of noun depends on the standpoint from which their story is told — is a tale as old as time. For the conquistadors, the descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers and the men and women dispatched to Botany Bay, the outcome of these confrontations between more advanced (and better armed) civilisations and primitive societies was as obvious and unquestioned as it had been for millennia: the conqueror took all.

In recent years, some conquerors have begun to look over their shoulders. Words such as primitive are losing derogatory significance; increasingly, the definition of progress is qualified by the question "in whose eyes, and for whose benefit"? What ought to be the responsibilities and duties of the dominant culture in light of these changing perspectives? This week, three different chapters in this conflict have highlighted the difficulty of giving answers.

In Australia, the swearing in yesterday of Bob Bellear as the country's first aboriginal judge has been hailed as a symbol of interracial reconciliation. That it may be; but equally *symbolic of how history is* irreversible is Judge Bellear's decision to become a lawyer in the first place. Only as part of the modern institutional world, he realised, could he fight for Australia's "first nation". Aborigines are beginning to win claims for ancestral lands; but the great majority have said farewell, and not always with regret, to hunter-gatherers' ways.

To the northwest of the Torres Strait, where some of these claims are now being laid, lies the home of the Papuans. The line that divides their island is between justice and injustice. The eastern half, once Australian, is now independent Papua-New Guinea. In the west, which was formerly Dutch, 250 tribes live according to customs little changed since the Stone Age. In the relief at the rescue this week of British and other hostages, captured last January by fighters of the Free Papua Movement (OPM), the tale of their captors has had little attention.

The departing Dutch intended independence for these Oceanic Melanesians, who are as different from the Asiatic Indonesians as they were from the Dutch. But thanks to one of the most unedifying episodes in the history of UN electoral supervision, Dutch New Guinea became Irian Jaya, part of Indonesia. Since then, thousands of Papuans have been killed by Indonesian troops *suppressing protests against Indonesian* rule and the vast Freeport mine which encroaches on one of the world's last wildernesses.

It is fashionable in many Western quarters now to be in favour of conservation and against mining. But in Irian Jaya, the *young British scientists were seized because* a proposed natural park, whose flora and fauna they were innocently mapping, is resisted by the OPM and some local people as an encroachment on tribal lands. Similarly, on the other side of the world, Khwe bushmen are bitterly contesting plans by the Botswana Government to move them out of the Kalahari game reserve. Cattle ranching has already pushed southern Africa's bushmen out of much of their traditional land. Now the 3,000 Khwe on the reserve, who are among the last to live mainly by traditional hunting and plant-gathering, fear that conserving lions and tourist revenue will take priority over their rights.

An enlightened society can and must do what it can to protect the rights of primitive peoples. But it will succeed only in part. Claude Lévi-Strauss the great anthropologist, tells how in the depths of the Amazon, he met a tribe whose rumoured existence he was on the way to observe. They too had heard rumours, of the modern world. They were on their way to find it.

HOWARD'S PLAY

The Home Secretary seeks Tory common ground on Europe

There is no hope of uniting the Conservative Party on the issue of Europe this side of a general election. Thus a reasonable Tory task is to devise a stance that maximises the number of MPs prepared to back it. Malcolm Rifkind's White Paper on Europe, was one attempt. Michael Howard's speech yesterday on the reform of the European Court of Justice was another.

The powers of the ECJ annoy not just the Euro-sceptics in the Tory party, but also the vast majority of their colleagues. Mr Howard managed to win plaudits yesterday from MPs as far apart as Iain DuncanSmith (*right-wing sceptic*) and Sir Peter Hordern (centrist pro-European). This issue has the power to bring together all but the most extreme factions of the Conservative Party, those who want to pull out of the European Union altogether Tory members of the European Parliament who have been captured by federalist interests.

But while the Home Secretary's speech may act as a rallying cry, his specific proposals are tentative. During discussions in Cabinet, Mr Howard appears to have acceded to a majority, led by the Lord Chancellor, which rejects rendering some judgments of the Court inoperative in Britain, as suggested by Mr Duncan Smith. Most legal opinion holds that such an objective can be achieved only by repealing Section 2(1) of the European Communities Act, under which the British courts undertake to follow *and enforce* EU law as developed by the ECJ.

Since the principle underlying that clause is central to the EU's philosophy and system, such a move would provoke a general political crisis. Britain's membership of the EU would be in doubt. *Voluntarily throwing* Britain's place in the Union into question would be a gift to Chancellor Kohl and others who might like to rid themselves of the restraints of Britain's constitutional veto inside the EU. In recognition of this, the Home Secretary confined himself yesterday to supporting the Government's reformist agenda for the Court: limits to liability in retrospective judgements, streamlined procedures and safeguards against the loose treaty drafting which has led to so much trouble in the past.

Britain's best chance of winning a more flexible relationship with the rest of the EU is to negotiate from a position of strength. Britain has a veto on constitutional change. If other EU states eventually want to proceed with projects that Britain wants no part of, let them make the approach and offer something to this country in exchange. To attempt to undermine the EU's legal order would not necessarily or always be against British interests. But it would throw away a negotiating advantage of no small value.

Mr Howard's advocacy of "variable geometry", which allows states more choice about which policies they join, is welcome. We have often argued it in this column. But the design of such geometry is no simple matter. Britain's partners, out of frustration with this country's *intransigence, could* refuse to agree to a British *vision, decide* to tear up the Treaty of Rome and start again. The negotiating position for those, like Mr Howard, who want Britain to remain in a looser EU, is politically hard to convey to a party that yearns for simple solutions.

TIES THAT BIND US

A civic example from the Charles Douglas-Home Prize winner

From Westminster and Whitehall it is easy to paint a picture of *British society imploding* under the influence of job insecurity, family breakdown and moral decay. The evidence is all around politicians in London: drugs, crime, urban deprivation. A sense of lost community pervades the more thoughtful political speeches.

Matthew d'Ancona's study of civic values in Swindon, the project which won the 1995 Charles Douglas-Home Prize, is published in our magazine today. It draws a far less gloomy conclusion. This week President Chirac, touring a regenerated Easterhouse in Scotland, was also *impressed* by the extent to which hope can be reborn through community action. As Mr d'Ancona writes: "It is easy — and tempting — to dismiss the idea that voluntary work can be a potent force of social cohesion in a post-modern *society habituated* to State intervention and individualistic behaviour". But the evidence of Swindon, Glasgow and other pockets of the country proves this to be wrong.

Swindon ought to be one of the least promising towns in Britain in which to discover a civic identity — which is precisely why Mr d'Ancona chose it. It has no cathedral, no famous architecture, no civic centre, no cultural heart. It has an astonishingly high turnover of population: the electoral register changes by 25 per cent a year. And it has lost what used to be its *raison d'être*: the train-building *industry*.

Yet Mr d'Ancona found a civic spirit not just thriving, but evolving to match the times. Railways are still a part of the Swindon folk memory and evoke to many a *paternalistic* past in which churches, schools, hospitals, libraries and clubs were provided by the town's main employer. But this history is just one strand in an embroidery of *threads* that make up the community's identity. A greater bond is high technology, which symbolises a common *aspiration towards* getting on in life.

Even the rapid turnover of population and labour mobility has been turned towards the town's advantage. One interviewee, head of his local residents' association, revels in this: "Swindon is full of people who have made it recently," he says. "Nobody asks: where was his father born? Where did he go to university? I like that. I like the here and now." This rootlessness has if anything contributed to a desire to help others. According to Mr d'Ancona, "charitable work vies with support for Swindon Football Club as the town's principal *leisure-time activity*".

The lesson from both Swindon and Easterhouse is that the collective spirit in human society is remarkably resilient. *The Times* has always believed in the value of what Edmund Burke christened "little *platoons*". This was a central tenet in the philosophy of Charles Douglas-Home, editor of *The Times* from 1982 to 1985, to whose memory is dedicated both this award and the top Community Enterprise Award, given annually under the auspices of Business in the Community to groups who share our faith in the power of community spirit. Untouched by government, people can, together, achieve great things.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Ethics of fertility treatment for people with HIV

From Professor Michael Adler, Chairman of the National Aids Trust

Sir, The critical issue in the debate over whether women with HIV should be given IVF treatment in order to conceive (report and article, *May 14; leading article, May 15) is not* whether modern medical science should aid their pursuit of conception: it is whether people with HIV are deemed by society to be acting responsibly if they decide, having weighed the issues, to conceive at all.

Naturally we empathise with the concerns being expressed in this area. At the same time our understanding of HIV/Aids has evolved over the past 15 years, and there have been significant developments both in terms of treatments that reduce the risk of HIV's vertical transmission from a *mother to her child, and in terms of* the life expectancy of individuals who have the virus.

It is misleading to label HIV, as your leader does, as automatically "highly communicable" from mother to child when the great majority of babies in this situation can now be delivered free of HIV infection. Your report alludes to US clinical trials where antiviral treatments administered during pregnancy reduced the rate of HIV transmission to the region of 7 to 10 per cent. Future protocols and innovations applied at the respective stages *of conception, pregnancy and* delivery are likely to further reduce this risk.

On the issue of the life expectancy of the HIV-positive parent it must be remembered that people with the virus can and are living full and active lives for a considerable period — on average a decade and more — before Aids is actually diagnosed. Indeed, treatment centres report a number of cases of "long-term non-progressors": individuals who were diagnosed with HIV in the early 1980s remain fully healthy to this day and show no signs whatsoever of developing Aids.

Legislation on IVF already and quite rightly requires the interests of the potential child to be properly considered. We do not believe there should be absolute rules one way or the other for couples affected by HIV *who seek this treatment. Such cases* should be considered on their own merits, with particular attention paid to the issue of the level of support available to the child from a surviving parent and the wider family in the event of any tragic bereavement.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL ADLER,
Chairman, National Aids Trust,
Eileen House,
80 Newington Causeway, SE1.
May 17.

From Contessa Josephine Quintavalle

Sir, Can we honestly criticise Professor Lord Winston for providing IVF treatment to a woman who is HIV-*positive? It seems to me we have given* doctors in this field carte blanche to do anything they feel like.

You report that the British Medical Association believes that doctors should be trusted to use their judgment. Professor Winston has done just that — used his judgment — regardless of public opinion.

Core (Comment on Reproductive *Ethics*) was aware of IVF treatment for HIV-positive patients as long ago as May 1995 but, on questioning, the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) was unable to give any precise opinion as to what they thought about this particular issue, let alone admit that this practice was already taking place.

The part of the HFEA in this particular episode reflects their usual approach to tricky issues: "worried in principle about the problems involved, but [feels] that the decision should be taken by doctor and patients" (report, May 14). *This is not ethics* but anarchy. It must surely be obvious to everybody that ethical decisions regarding IVF treatment cannot be made by the practitioners of IVF or by their puppet ethics committees, let alone trusted to the pass-the-buck attitude of the current HFEA.

We will continue our two-year campaign for reform of the HFEA.

Yours sincerely,
JOSEPHINE QUINTAVALLE
(Co-Founder, Core),
PO Box 4593, London SW3 6XE.
May 14.

From the Chairman of the Human Fertilisation & Embryology Authority

Sir, Dominic Kennedy's report today set out a number of issues surrounding the treatment of HIV-positive patients. There is a further point that *should be made.*

In passing the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act in 1990, Parliament decided that no particular category of person should be excluded from treatment. The law does state however that clinics must take account of the welfare of the potential child before offering treatment to anyone.

To assist clinics in forming protocols to take account of the welfare of the child, the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority does provide guidance through its code of *practice. Ultimately, the decision to* treat an individual seeking treatment must be left to the clinician in charge.

Taking account of the welfare of the child is not a light matter. Clinics must take account of a number of factors, including the prospective parents' age and medical histories, their attitude to having a family, and any risk of harm to a potential child or other children in the family.

As you rightly report, the HFEA would be concerned if a clinic routinely treated couples where the man or woman was HIV-positive.

Yours sincerely,
RUTH DEECH,
Chairman,
Human Fertilisation &
Embryology Authority,
Paxton House, 30 Artillery Lane, E1.
May 14.

From Dr Robert Isaacson

Sir, I read your editorial criticism of Professor Winston's decision to provide IVF treatment for an HIV-positive patient.

I recently had a lady in my surgery *who requested I remove her contra*ceptive coil as she wished to conceive. She was HIV-positive and I complied with her request. Was I wrong?

Yours sincerely,
R. ISAACSON,
10 Alberon Gardens, NW11.
May 15.

Tories in Ulster

From Mr Stuart Sexton

Sir, Pace Simon Jenkins's article on *devolved government in Europe* (May 8), the Tories *do* fight elections in Northern Ireland, both local and parliamentary. I fought the by-election in North Down last year as the Conservative candidate. Not many voted for me but the people of North Down *did* have the opportunity to vote Conservative. The Tories are fighting the elections throughout the Province on May 30 to elect the new forum for negotiations.

It is not Tory policy to revive Stormont. Furthermore, most of the people in Northern Ireland want full integration with the UK, government from Westminster and democratic local government fully restored with no regional assembly in between. Major is not negotiating with the IRA for a new Stormont. In any case, the IRA want full integration with the Republic.

Unionism means maintaining the Union of our four nations with one Sovereign, one Parliament, one Government and fully accountable local *government*. To have regional assemblies as well as local councils would be excessive bureaucracy.

Yours faithfully,
STUART SEXTON,
Humford Cottage,
Sanderstead Road,
Sanderstead, Surrey.
May 9.

Metal detecting

From the Director of the Council for British Archaeology

Sir, My remark about metal detecting being a "working class hobby" in your report on the Treasure Bill ("Treasure seekers find law change a threat", May 11) may have seemed patronising, having been disembodied from its context in which I was trying to make wider points.

Among these was the proposition that if some metal detectorists regard archaeology as elitist, or if sections of Britain's public feel alienated from archaeology's aims, the cause and remedy for such a communication failure are to a large extent matters for the archaeological community itself to address.

Your report suggested that "many" archaeologists wish to see metal detecting banned. Any who do can speak for themselves, but this is not the view of my council.

Our policy, which was recently endorsed by more than 20 national archaeological and museum organisations, is to back the Government's proposal for a voluntary scheme to encourage the reporting of archaeological finds.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD MORRIS, Director,
Council for British Archaeology,
Bowes Morrell House,
111 Walmgate, York.
May 13.

From Mr G. de la Bédoyère

Sir, As the author of several books on Roman Britain I have found that some archaeologists, far from protecting the nation's heritage, treat their sites and the finds as their personal property.

The public may not be aware that the vaults of many museums in this country are full of unpublished, poorly recorded finds and notes of long-past excavations. Only a small proportion of archaeological excavations ever get published and only a small proportion of finds are ever displayed.

At least metal-detectorists, "working class" or otherwise, do not profess to be public guardians.

Yours faithfully,
GUY de la BEDOYERE,
20 Eltham Park Gardens, SE9.

Southbank walk

From Mr Alec Samuels

Sir, A live-in bridge over the Thames (report, May 7; letter, May 9) may well have merit. But a modern moving-*pavement, weather-protected bridge* connecting Waterloo station, the Festival Hall and the National Theatre with the north bank of the river would greatly facilitate movement across the river.

Yours faithfully,
ALEC SAMUELS,
14 Redhill, Bassett, Southampton.
May 10.

Water disconnections

From Ms Barbara Murphy

Sir, Your reference to Thames Water as having the "highest household disconnections at 1,075" (report, Business, May 8) needs to be put into context as, in isolation, it does not take into account the fact that Thames Water also has the greatest number of customers.

The rate per 10,000 households is a more accurate reflection of Thames Water's position. In 1995-96 Thames Water had a disconnection rate of four *per 10,000 households*, which is close to the national average of three households per 10,000.

Yours sincerely,
BARBARA MURPHY,
Customer Services Manager,
Thames Water Utilities,
PO Box 492,
Swindon, Wiltshire.
May 8.

Living wills

From Mrs L. E. Vickers

Sir, I agree with Dr Burns-Cox (letter, May 10) about the usefulness of wills, living wills, donor cards and enduring powers of attorney. But, sadly, the standard enduring power of attorney under the 1985 Act confines itself to "all my property and affairs".

However, the draft Bill attached to the Law Commission's report on mental incapacity (Law Commission Report No. 231) proposes replacing enduring powers by a new continuing power of attorney which may extend to the donor's personal welfare, healthcare, property or affairs, and will give the donee authority to make decisions which the donor is without capacity to make.

Yours faithfully,
L. E. VICKERS (solicitor),
21 Park Gate, W5.
May 10.

Supermarket schemes

From the Editor of
Customer Loyalty Today

Sir, Few in the marketing world will be surprised to hear that Sainsbury is at last giving way and launching a loyalty card (report, May 9). Like it or not, loyalty cards have become central to the strategy of most major US, and now UK, supermarkets.

The Nineties have seen a significant move from mass marketing to customer-specific marketing, which provides better rewards for more valuable customers.

A logical development of this is "stealth" marketing, in which considerable competitive advantage is gained by making different offers, privately, to selected customers, either via the mail or (more economically) by printing specific coupons electronically at the store entrance or checkout.

Variants of one such programme (already in use in the UK) are used in many thousands of stores in the US, where a database of some 40 million customers is maintained — claimed to be one of the largest marketing databases in the world.

Sainsbury remains tight-lipped about its plans, but I would be surprised if its new loyalty programme did not incorporate an element such as this.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN CLARK, Editor,
Customer Loyalty Today,
London House, Broad Street,
Somerton, Somerset.
May 10.

From Mr Andrew Dyke

Sir, I read your report about supermarket loyalty card competition with some concern. How is this activity to be regulated? Clearly the Personal Investment Authority have the necessary bureaucratic skills, but they are rather busy just now making sure that pensions providers and advisers write to everyone who has bought a personal pension policy recently, just in case they don't like what they bought.

We need a new regulatory authority to supervise supermarket loyalty cards — Offtrolley, perhaps. They could also investigate price differences — I find I have bought baked beans recently at 26p a can at one supermarket which other supermarket chains are selling at 9p. Clearly I have been mis-sold my baked beans and someone must compensate me.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW DYKE,
40 Compton Road,
Winchmore Hill, N21.

Weekend Money letters, page 39

Letters for publication should carry contact telephone numbers. We regret that we cannot accept letters by telephone but they may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5046.

Lasting effects and uses of wind farms

From Mr Soren Krohn

Sir, Robert Woodward, Vice-Chairman, Country Guardian (letter, May 9), states that Denmark's 3,800 wind turbines produce 1.2 per cent of Danish electricity consumption. The true figure is 4 per cent (which is, incidentally, equivalent to total Danish electricity consumption in 1947).

The vast majority of the Danish turbines date from the 1970s and 1980s. A modern 1,500 kW machine produces more than 100 times the output of a 1980 vintage machine.

The Danish Government plans to supply 10 per cent of the country's electricity consumption using wind energy by the year 2005. That could be done with a total of only 1,000 new wind turbines.

*In reality, the total will be some*what closer to 2,500, since turbines are designed to last at least 20 years; ie, the number of turbines will decline as many old machines are replaced by a single new machine. In addition, offshore wind farms should supply an additional 20 per cent of Denmark's electricity needs by the year 2030, according to government plans.

Mr Woodward states that there is virtually nowhere in the Danish countryside where you can neither see nor hear a wind turbine. That is untrue. In any event, with 3,800 machines in operation, a total of seven complaints about noise (from old machines) were registered last year.

Yours faithfully,
SOREN KROHN,
Director General, Danish Wind Turbine Manufacturers' Association,
Norre Voldgade 48 B,
DK-1358 Copenhagen V.

From Mr Edmund Hayward

Sir, Mr Dawes's claim (letter, May 9) that windmills can be dismantled and leave virtually no trace of their existence *is only true on a very narrow in*terpretation: the vast steel structures can be removed, but the great network of access roads and drainage ditches will forever scar the landscape.

Here in mid-Wales these industrial developments are generally built on untamed moorland sites, thus it is an ancient, balanced habitat which they despoil for so little gain. Bogs which have taken millennia to grow and which are home to a vast array of wildlife are destroyed and cannot be replaced.

Yours faithfully,
EDMUND HAYWARD,
Great Cantal Farmhouse,
Llanbister,
Llandrindod Wells, Powys.
May 12.

From Mr R. J. R. MacDonnell

Sir, There is not much intrinsically wrong with wind farms and they may even be beneficial. The fault lies in their location.

Instead of siting them in such a way as to destroy Britain's loveliest landscapes, why not relocate them to some *of our deserted city centres?*

Architects and planners have already created highly efficient wind tunnels there. A couple of windmills would bring movement, variety and interest to bleak and desolate townscapes.

Yours etc,
R. J. R. MacDONNELL,
Ivy Lodge,
Front Street, Churchill, Avon.
May 10.

Boxing clever

From Mr Nicholas Baldock

Sir, Lennox Lewis is to be paid £4 million not to fight Mike Tyson (report, May 17).

Mr Tyson should know that, for a more modest sum, I too would be prepared not to fight him.

Yours etc,
NICHOLAS BALDOCK,
118 Hydethorpe Road, SW12.
May 17.

Loose talk

From Mr Donald Bush

Sir, I am intrigued by the item "Gays ban stays" in your news summary (later editions, May 10).

I thought these instruments of torture had been out of favour for many decades.

Yours truly,
D. BUSH,
1 Court Drive,
Waddon, Croydon, Surrey.
May 10.

Additional problem

From Mrs M. C. Stanley

Sir, I have just heard on BBC News an example of a mathematics question for 11-year-olds.

A man buys a certain number of drinks at price x and a certain number of drinks at price y. What is the total of the amount he had to pay?

I seem to remember that men in my examination papers, even beyond the age of 11, only bought such things as oranges and apples, if they had time between emptying and filling baths.

Yours faithfully,
MARY STANLEY,
65 Coastal Road,
East Preston, West Sussex.
May 13.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 16: The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, this morning visited the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society's Centenary Show at Balmoral Showgrounds, Belfast, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the County Borough of Belfast (Colonel Elliott Wilson).

His Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, this afternoon visited the 1st Battalion The Highlanders (Seaforth, Gordons and Camerons) at Ebrington Barracks.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 17: The President of the French Republic and Madame Jacques Chirac, with the French Suite in attendance, left Buckingham Palace this morning upon the conclusion of the State Visit to The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh.

The President drove to the Hotel Inter-Continental, Hyde Park Corner, where His Excellency held a Press Conference.

Miss June Lendore was received in audience by The Queen upon her appointment as High Commissioner for Grenada.

His Excellency Lieutenant General Armando Panguene and Mrs Panguene were received in farewell audience by Her Majesty and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as High Commissioner for the Republic of Mozambique in London.

Sir David Hannay, Sir Peter Heap and Sir Nicholas Bayne were received by The Queen upon their retirement from the Diplomatic Service.

Lady Hannay, Lady Heap and Lady Bayne were also received by Her Majesty.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, Bowles Rock Trust, this afternoon visited the Bowles Outdoor Centre and opened the new Lodge at Eridge Green, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

By Command of The Queen, the Earl of Airlie KT (Lord Chamberlain) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this morning upon the Departure of The President of the French Republic and Madame Jacques Chirac and bade farewell to His Excellency and Madame Jacques Chirac on behalf of Her Majesty.

PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE
May 17: The Princess Royal, Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, this afternoon arrived at Edinburgh Airport and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh (Mr Eric Milligan, the Rt Hon the Lord Provost).

Her Royal Highness drove to the Palace of Holyroodhouse and was received by the Hereditary Keeper (the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon).

The Princess Royal inspected a Guard of Honour found by 1st Battalion The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment).

Her Royal Highness this evening a gave a Dinner at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

The Princess Royal afterwards attended a reception a the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
May 17: The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, this morning received Brigadier Denzil Sharpe upon relinquishing his appointment as Commander Aviation, Army Air Corps, and Colonel Colin Sibun upon assuming the appointment.

His Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, Army Air Corps, afterwards received Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Gibson upon *relinquishing* his appointment as Commander Officer 1 Regiment, and Lieutenant Colonel Gary Coward *upon* assuming the appointment.

The Prince of Wales this afternoon held a Meeting and Luncheon with delegates of the Business in the *Environment Programme.*

Charterhouse

The following have been recommended for election to:

Major Foundation Scholarships
1 John D A Dennen, Wellesley House; 2 Matthew C Bray, Milbourne Lodge; 3 Matthew E C Jackson, Arnold House; 4 Edward J L Stanley, Sussex House; 5 Nicolas Gonzalez, Charterhouse (Beechwood Park); 6 James O Milton, Charterhouse (Old Buckenham Hall).

Foundation Scholarships
7 Henry Filloux-Bennett, Maidwell Hall; 8 Jamie A Gilbert, Cumnor House, Haywards Heath; 9 Oliver P Cooper, Aldro; 10 Yuen Y Man, Yateley School; 11 Alexander C S Hawkesworth, Maidwell Hall; 12 Luke R Sandler, Rokeby.

Major Exhibitions
1 Nicholas A Beazley, Brambletye; 2 Charles M Palley, Hazelwood; 3 Andrew G Brooks, Parkside; 4 Simon P Sheena, Gramercy Hall.

Minor Exhibition
5 Nicholas J L Davies, Ashdown House.

Benn Scholarship
Matthew C Bray, Milbourne Lodge.

Peter Attenborough Scholarship
Timothy M Horsley, Windlesham House.

Sir William Blackstone Award (for entry in 1998)
Nicholas R I Bell, Aldro.

Art
Scholarships: 1 Edward T Hartnett, Cumnor House, Haywards Heath; 2 Michael P J Best, Brambletye.

Music
Scholarships: Connor D Burrowes, St Paul's Cathedral School; Julian S-F Chan, German Swiss International School; Hugh E Hudleston, The Pilgrims' School; Peter B Milmer, The Pilgrims' School; Robert E Shepherd, The Minster School, York; Oliver D M Smeeth, Salisbury Cathedral School; Richard S Stacey, Milbourne Lodge.
Exhibitions: Charles A O London, Brambletye; Peter W Robinson, Charterhouse (Cothill House).

For Sixth Form Entry
Peter Newton Scholarships
Jenna Durrant, Woolmer Hill School; Edward Kinsella, Rodborough School; Clement Power, Tiffin Boys' School.

Sir Robert Birley Scholarships
Sarah Bailey, Wycombe Abbey; Juliet Holdsworth, Alton Convent.

Sir Robert Birley Exhibitions
Leonie Baird, Bryanston School; Abigail Charters, Woolmer Hill School.

Exhibitions
Iona Douglas-Home, North Foreland Lodge; Emma-Louisa Muller, Priory School.

Music Scholarships
Sarah Bailey, Wycombe Abbey; Clement Power, Tiffin Boys' School.

Conference

Pathfinders Association and Fontmell Group
General William R. Sullivan, Chairman of the US Marshall Foundation, was a speaker at a conference held yesterday at the Royal Geographical Society, at the invitation of the Pathfinders Association and the Fontmell Group on Disaster Relief, to mark the inauguration of the programme to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Marshall Aid. Sir Geoffrey Pattie, MP, presided. Air Marshal Sir John Curtiss and Mr Hugh Hanning were the hosts.

Legal appointment

Mr Richard Horwell to be sixth Treasury Counsel to the Crown at the Central Criminal Court.

Royal engagements

TODAY:
The Duke of Edinburgh, as President of the King George's Fund for Sailors, will attend the Ascot charity raceday cabaret ball at the Ascot Pavilion, Ascot Racecourse, at 8.00.

Prince Edward will attend the spring ball at the Hampshire Police Training College, Netley, at 8.00 in aid of the British Olympic Appeal.

The Princess Royal, as Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, will attend the opening of the General Assembly, Assembly Hall, The Mound, at 10.00; and will attend a Garden Party at the Palace of Holyroodhouse at 3.30.

TOMORROW:
The Duke of Edinburgh, as Colonel of the Grenadier Guards, will attend the regimental Remembrance Sunday service at the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, at 2.55.

The Princess Royal, as Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, will attend the assembly service in St Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh, at 10.00.

Princess Margaret, as Patron of the Hallé Orchestra, will attend a performance at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, at 6.50.

Luncheons

Lloyd's Register
Mr Patrick O'Ferrall, Chairman of Lloyd's Register, Dr Tim Jones, deputy chairman, Lloyd's Register Board members and Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance Board gave a luncheon yesterday at Trinity House. Mr Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England was the guest of honour. Among others present were:
The High Commissioner for Malaysia, the Ambassador of Cuba, Baroness Platt of Writtle, the Chief Executive of the Offshore Safety Division of the Health and Safety Executive, the Corporate Director of the National Westminster Bank, the Chairman of the International Maritime Industries Forum, the Deputy Master of the Corporation of Trinity House, the Permanent Secretary of the DTI, the Consultant Director of Intercargo, the Managing Director of Amerada Hess, the General Manager of the Royal Opera House, the Chairman of Total Oil Marine, the Chairman of the International Chamber of Shipping, the Chairman of Matheson, the Chairman of Lloyd's of London, the Director-General of Gas Supply, the President of the European Investment Bank, Ms Kate Bellingham, Dr Chris Fay, Ms Carol Galley, Mr Kenneth Gordon, Mr John A Hadjipateras, Mr Crispian Knell, Canon J G M W Murphy and Mr John Riley.

Kingston Law School
A luncheon for Law School alumni will be held at the Kingston Hill Centre on Saturday, June 8, 1996, at 12.30pm. The cost will be £17.50 per head for former members of staff and those who graduated before 1992, and £12.50 per head for those who graduated in 1992 or later, inclusive of wine and soft drinks. If you wish to attend please contact Sylvia Caird in the Law School on 0181-547 7336.

Memorial services

The Hon Mrs E Pleydell-Bouverie
The Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire attended a service of thanksgiving for the life of the Hon Mrs E. (Pearl) Pleydell-Bouverie held yesterday in Beaulieu Abbey Church. The Rev Terry Abernethy officiated.

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, son, Mr James Chichester, grandson, Mrs Christopher McEwan, granddaughter, the Hon Mary Montagu, granddaugher, Miss Alice Moore-Gwyn, greatgranddaughter, Lady Caroline Wrey, granddaughter, and Camilla Pleydell-Bouverie, granddaughter, gave readings. Lord Crathorne, cousin, and the Right Rev Colin James gave addresses. Among others present were:
Mr and Mrs Robin Pleydell-Bouverie (son and daughter-in-law), the Hon Mrs Caroline Weston (daughter), the Hon Mrs Elizabeth Varley (stepdaughter), Lady Montagu of Beaulieu, (daughter-in-law), Sir John and the Hon Lady Chichester, and Mr and the Hon Mrs Timothy Horn (sons-in-law and daughters), Mr and Mrs Julian Chichester, the Hon Ralph Montagu, the Hon Jonathan Montagu, Mrs James Chichester, Mr and Mrs David Moore-Gwyn, Nicholas Pleydell-Bouverie, Mr Galvin Weston, Sir Bourchier Wrey and Mr Christopher McEwan, (grandchildren), Mr Harry Moore-Gwyn (greatgrandson), *Lady Margaret* Barry and the *Dowager Countess* of Radnor (sisters-in-law), Belinda Lady Montagu, the Hon Mrs Julian Ashley Cooper, Mr Brian and Lady Carey Bassett, Mrs Jennifer Brown, Lady Crathorne, Mr T B Cubitt, Mrs M Cubitt, Miss S Cubitt, the Hon David Dugdale, the Earl and Countess of Harrowby, Sir David and Lady Hill-Wood, Lady Mary Mansell-Lewis, Lady Meyrick, Mr J Moorby, Mr and the Hon Mrs William Pease, Mrs Colin Peterson, Mr and Mrs Julian Pitt-Rivers, Mr Michael Pitt-Rivers, the Hon Reuben Pleydell-Bouverie, Lady Lucy Pleydell-Bouverie, Lady Martha Pleydell-Bouverie, Mrs Peregrine Pollen, the Earl and Countess of Radnor, Margaret Countess of Radnor, the Earl and Countess of Rothes, Viscount Sandon, Mr and Mrs Oliver Woodroffe.

Representatives of Beaulieu Conservative Association, Cricket Club, Fire Brigade, Horticultural Society, Mothers Union, Parish Council, Parochial Church Council, River Sailing Club, School, WI, Young Farmers, and Beaulieu Wives, British Red Cross, the Diocesan Advisory Committee, East Boldre Luncheon Club, East Boldre Players, Friends of Winchester Cathedral, Hampshire County Council, New Forest Association, New Forest District Council, Royal British Legion Women's Section, Royal Cruising Club, the RNLI, Royal Yacht Squadron, Guide Association, Wiverley Association, the Village Hall Committee, Waterside Operatic Society and many other friends.

Lieutenant-Commander Jeffrey Quill
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Lieutenant-Commander Jeffrey Quill, test pilot, was held yesterday at St Clement Danes, Strand. The Rev Peter Bishop officiated.

Mr John Weston, Chairman and Managing Director of British Aerospace Defence, read the lesson and Air Chief Marshal Sir Neil Wheeler read Brian Young's *Flight*. Mr Alex Henshaw gave an address.

The Chief of the Air Staff and Lady Graydon, attended. Among others present were:
Mrs Quill (widow), Ms Sarah Quill, Miss Kate Quill and Mrs Virginia Stevens (daughters), Mr Thomas Stevens and Miss Susannah Stevens (grandchildren), Mrs Antony Bousfield and Mrs Joanna Milward (sisters-in-law), Lord and Lady Newborough (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Mr Phillip Stevens, Mrs Janet Farrant, Mr and Mrs C P G Farrant, Mr and Mrs P Farrant, Mrs Ronald Baker, Miss Susan Howard-Smith, Mrs G Garnham, Miss Vanessa Garnham, Miss Diana Garnham, Mr and Mrs Dennis Ing.

Viscountess Stuart of Findhorn, the Hon Lady Dundas, the Hon Dickon Kindersley, Marshal of the RAF Sir John Grandy, Marshal of the RAF Sir Denis and Lady Spotswood, Marshal of the RAF Sir Michael and Lady Beetham, Air Chief Marshal Sir Patrick Hine (Military Adviser to British Aerospace) and Lady Hine, Air Chief Marshal Sir Christopher Foxley-Norris (chairman, Battle of Britain Fighter Association) and Lady Foxley-Norris, Air Chief Marshal Sir Frederick and Lady Rosier, Air Chief Marshal Sir John Aiken.

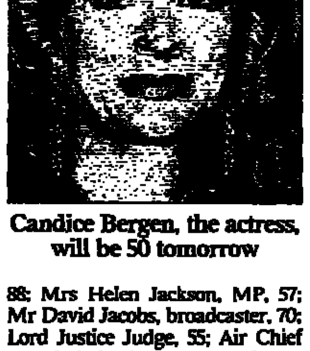
Air Chief Marshal Sir David Evans, Air Chief Marshal Sir John Barraclough (The Air League), Air Chief *Marshal Sir Lewis Hodges*, *Air Marshal* Sir Roger Austin (Controller Aircraft), Air Marshal Sir Frederick Sowrey (RAF Historical Society), Air Marshal Sir Timothy Garden, Air Marshal Sir Charles and Lady Pringle, Air Marshal Sir Patrick and Lady Dunn, Air Vice-Marshal C R Spink (AOC 11/18 Group, RAF Bentley Priory), Air Vice-Marshal Sir Johnnie Johnson, Air Commodore Sir Archie Winskill, Lady Wheeler, Sir George Edwards, OM, FRS, Lady Crowley-Milling, Lady Lapsley.

Air Vice-Marshal Anthony Bagnall, Air Vice-Marshal and Mrs B H Newton, Air Vice-Marshal Sandy Johnstone, Air Vice-Marshal and Mrs H Bird-Wilson, Air Vice-Marshal J R Campbell, Air Commodore and Mrs Peter Brothers, Air Commodore R J Spiers, Wing-Commander and Mrs Geoffrey Page, Captain George Baldwin, RN, Captain Dick Law, RN, Captain Eric Brown, RN, Captain Barry Nation, RN, Group Captain John Cunningham, Mrs Alex Henshaw, Mrs John Weston, Mr Bill Grandy, Mr Peter Lapsley, Mr and Mrs Brian Trubshaw.

Mr Raymond Baxter, Mr Duncan Simpson, Mr P A Hearne, Mr John Underwood, Mr Peter Holmes, Mr Geoffrey Knight, Mr and Mrs R Baker, Mr Peter George, Mr John Wilkinson, MP, Mr James Moorhouse, MEP, Mr Allen Greenwood, Mr Peter Twiss, Mr and Mrs David Morgan, Mr and Mrs Peter Bates, Mr Clive Hunting, Miss Dorothy Stone, Mr and Mrs G N M Gingell, Mr and Mrs Frank Murphy, Mr John Rutter, Mrs Michael Chichester, Mrs Diana Tunnicliffe, Mr John Jones, Mr Richard Morris, Mr Cliff Rogers.

Representatives of the Spitfire Society, No 249 Squadron Association, 16th Squadron Association, Air Gunners Association, RAF Fighter Control Officers Association, Air Transport Association, Rolls Royce, Rolls Royce Heritage, EF2000, British Aerospace, Air Historical Branch, MOD, and the RAF Benevolent Fund.

Weekend birthdays



Candice Bergen, the actress, will be 50 tomorrow

Pope John Paul II celebrates his 76th birthday today.

TODAY: Sir Richard Body, MP, 69; Mr John Bruton, Prime Minister of the Republic of Ireland, 49; Miss Caroline Charles, fashion designer, 54; Mr John Clement, former chairman, Unigate Group, 64; Mr Perry Como, singer, 84; Sir Patrick Cormack, MP, 57; Mr Rodger Davis, golfer, 45; Mr Graham Dilley, cricketer, 37; Professor Sir Anthony Epstein, pathologist, 75; Sir Anthony Fell, former MP, 82; Professor G.R. Hall, nuclear scientist, 68; Rear-Admiral P.G. Hammersley, 68; Lord Hartwell, 85; Mr Keith Hellawell, Chief Constable, West Yorkshire, 54; Mr David Jamieson, MP, 49; Mr G.McC. Kitson, former Principal, Central School of Speech and Drama, 74; Sir Geoffrey Littler, civil servant, 66; Professor M.S. Longair, astronomer, 55; Miss Miriam Margolyes, actress, 55; Professor E.A. Marsland, former Vice-Chancellor, Birmingham University, 73; the Marquess of Reading, 54; Mr Peter Ryan, national director, Police Training, 52; Lord St John of Fawsley, 67; Mr Jacques Santer, President, European Commission, 59; Mr N.P. (Nobby) Stiles, footballer, 54; Dr A. Marshall Stoneham, physicist, 56; Mr Charles Wintour, journalist, 79.

TOMORROW: Professor John Ball, mathematician, 48; Sir Peter Bowness, solicitor, 53; Mr Esmond Bulmer, chairman, H.P. Bulmer Holdings, 61; Dr Edward de Bono, lateral thinker, 63; Mrs Justice Ebsworth, 59; Mr James Fox, actor, 57; Baroness Hylton-Foster, 88; Mrs Helen Jackson, MP, 57; Mr David Jacobs, broadcaster, 70; Lord Justice Judge, 55; Air Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Kennedy, 68; Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, broadcaster and former MP, 54; Mr Roger Laughton, chief executive, Meridian Television, 54; Mr John Lyons, trade unionist, 70.

Mr Michael McGowan, MEP, 56; Mr Noel Mander, organ builder, 84; Sir Edward Parkes, former Vice-Chancellor, Leeds University, 70; the Earl of Pembroke, 57; Dr Max Perutz, OM, CH, molecular biologist, 82; the Earl of Powis, 44; Sir Michael Scott, diplomat, 73; Professor Gordon Stone, chemist, 71; Mr Pete Townshend, guitarist and singer, 51; Mr Stephen Varcoe, baritone, 47; Mr Sandy Wilson, composer, 72; Miss Victoria Wood, comedian, 43.

Dinners

HM Lord High Commissioner
The Princess Royal, Her Majesty's Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, yesterday arrived in Edinburgh to take up residence at the Palace of Holyroodhouse and last night entertained the following at dinner:
The Lord and Lady Provost of Edinburgh, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and Mrs Harkness, the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, the Duke of Hamilton, the Earl and Countess of Erroll, the Earl and Countess of Dundee, the Secretary of State for Scotland and Mrs Forsyth, the Dean of the Chapel Royal in Scotland and Mrs Morris, the Principal Clerk of the Assembly and Dr Anne Weatherhead, Dr and Mrs Ian Graham Bryce and Mr and Mrs Gerald Wilson.

Lord Renwick
Lord Renwick, Vice-President of the Combustion Engineering Association, and Lady Renwick were the hosts at the annual dinner held last night at the House of Lords to mark the retirement of Lieutenant-Colonel David Suthers as director. Lord Ezra, president, and Lady Ezra, Mr and Mrs John Orange and Mr and Mrs John Jordan were among the guests.

Farriers' Company
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, were the guests of honour at a dinner of the Farriers' Company held last night at the Mansion House. Mr Roger Johnson, Master, presided. The Lord Mayor, Mr T.F.M. Head, Renter Warden, and Mr Michael Tucker also spoke. Among others present were:
The Upper Warden, the Middle Warden, the President of the National Association of Farriers, Blacksmiths and Agricultural Engineers, the Master of the Framework Knitters' Company, the Director of Defence Veterinary and Remount Service, RAVC, the Corps Commander of the Women's Transport Service (FANY), the Officer Commanding the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment, the Officer Commanding The King's Troop, RHA, the President of the British Equine Veterinary Association, the President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and their escorts.

Old Warwickian Association
Mr Brian Cordery was the guest of honour and speaker at the spring dinner of the Old Warwickian Association held last night at Hampton Court Palace. Mr Donald Hanson, president, was in the chair. Dr P.J. Cheshire, Headmaster of Warwick School, also spoke.

Anniversaries

TODAY
BIRTHS: Bertrand Russell, 3rd Earl Russell, philosopher and mathematician, Trelleck, Gwent, 1872; Walter Gropius, architect, Berlin, 1883; Dame Margot Fonteyn, prima ballerina, Surrey, 1919.

DEATHS: Pierre de Beaumarchais, dramatist, Paris, 1799; George Meredith, novelist, Box Hill, Surrey, 1909; Gustav Mahler, composer, Vienna, 1911.

TOMORROW
BIRTHS: Dame Nellie Melba, soprano, Richmond, near Melbourne, 1861; Lady Astor, first woman to take her seat as an MP, Danville, Virginia, 1879; Sir Michael Balcon, film producer, Birmingham, 1896; Charles Mark Boxer (Marc), cartoonist, 1931.

DEATHS: Alcuin, scholar, Tours, France, 804; St Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury 961-88, Canterbury, 988; *James* Boswell, biographer of Samuel Johnson, London, 1795; Charles Ives, composer, New York, 1954; Coleman Hawkins, jazz musician, New York, 1969; Ogden Nash, humorist and writer, Baltimore, Maryland, 1971; Sir John Betjeman, Poet Laureate 1972-84, Trebetherick, north Cornwall, 1984.

Forthcoming marriages

**Mr J.B.T. Davies
and Miss M. Vaern**
The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr and Mrs Tudor Davies, of Tadworth, Surrey, and Marianne, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jens Jacob Vaern, of Calver, Derbyshire.

**Mr J.E. Dudley
and Miss A.J. Knight**
The engagement is announced between John, son of Dr and Mrs R.J. Dudley, of Four Oaks, West Midlands, and Annabel, eldest daughter of Mr G.J.N. Knight and Mrs S.M. Page, formerly of White Waltham, Berkshire.

**Mr B.G. Hellyer
and Miss R.H. Hemsley**
The engagement is announced between Bart, elder son of Major and Mrs Andrew Hellyer, of Braunston, Rutland, and Rebecca, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Archie Hemsley, of Uppingham, Rutland.

**Mr M.A. Hughes
and Miss L.J. Stiller**
The engagement is announced between Mark Andrew, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Herbert Hughes, of Bartley Green, Birmingham, and Lyndal Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Stiller, of Brisbane, Australia.

**Mr J.M. Maclure
and Miss E.J. Frean**
The engagement is announced between Mark, eldest son of Sir John and Lady Maclure, of Morwenstow, Cornwall, and Emily, younger daughter of Captain Peter Frean, of Aberdeen, and Mrs Elisabeth Austing, of Salisbury.

**Mr E. O'Connor
and Miss S.E. Jackson**
The engagement is announced between Ellis, younger son of Mr and Mrs G.J. O'Connor, of Co Down, Northern Ireland, and Sarah, only daughter of Mr and Mrs B.T. Jackson, of Surbiton, Surrey.

**Mr A. Procter
and Miss A. MacPherson**
The engagement is announced between Adam, eldest son of Mr and Mrs K. Procter, of Pinner, Middlesex, and Amanda, only daughter of Mr and Mrs K. MacPherson, of Ruislip, Middlesex.

**Dr C.A. Seller
and Miss S.L. Boothman**
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Dr and Mrs Timothy Seller, of Guildford, Surrey, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Paul Boothman, of Bourne, Lincolnshire.

**Mr A. Shaw
and Miss R.E. Shaw**
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Brian Shaw, of Beckenham, Kent, and Rebecca, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs David Shaw, of Mayfield, East Sussex.

**Mr A.J. Glassbrook
and Miss K.M. Steyn**
The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Mr and Mrs David Glassbrook, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire, and Karen, younger daughter of Lord Steyn, of Swafield, Norfolk, and Mrs Jean Steyn, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and stepdaughter of Lady Steyn.

**Mr J.N.P. Seidler
and Miss H.L. Aird**
The engagement is announced between Johnnie, younger son of Mr Francis Seidler, of San Francisco, and Mrs Daphne Seidler, of Horsted Keynes, Sussex, and Henrietta, younger daughter of Sir Alastair and Lady Aird, of St James's, London.

**Mr N.D. Smithie
and Miss P.M. Knight**
The engagement is announced of Nicholas, elder son of Jonathan Smithie, of Oxford, and Helen Gale, of London, and Philippa, daughter of David and Sylvia Knight, of Hatfield Broad Oak, Hertfordshire.

Marriages

**Mr F. Mercieca
and Dr P.M. Dowd**
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 20, at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, London W1, of Mr Frank Mercieca, KSG, KHS, and Dr Pauline Mary Dowd, MD, FRCP, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Joseph Dowd. The Nuptial Mass was concelebrated by The Bishop of Lindisfarne, Father Michael Beattie, SJ, and Father Paul Mercieca, CP.

The bride was given away by her father and was attended by Miss Emma Stefanski, Ruth Stefanski, Katie and Lucy Dalzell. Mr Peter Mercieca was best man.

A reception was held at the Savoy Hotel.

**Mr M.D. Thomas
and Miss D.M. Rogers**
The marriage was celebrated on May 11, 1996 at the Priory Church, Bridlington, of Mr Martyn Thomas and Miss Deanne Rogers.

Service dinners

1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards
Major-General R.W. Ward, Colonel of the 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club.

London and Kent Artillery
Colonel D.J. McLelland, chairman, presided at a ladies night dinner of the London and Kent Artillery held last night at Woolwich. Brigadier P.D. Orchard-Lisle and Brigadier A.G. Ross also spoke.

HAC Mess Club
Colonel Sir Colin Cole, President of the HAC Mess Club, presided at a dinner held last night at Armoury House. Mr Andrew Izod and Mrs Basil Bicknell also spoke.

Church services tomorrow

Sunday after Ascension

ABERDEEN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch, Harwood in A flat, Ascendit Deus (Philips), The Provost; 6.00 SE, Songs of Praise combining Salvation Army Citadel Choir.

ARMAGH CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 Euch, Modal Euch, God is gone up; 3.15 E, Noble in B minor, O be joyful in the Lord (Britten).

BELFAST CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 Choral C, Missa Collegium regale (Howells), God is gone up (Finzi); 3.30 Choral E, Stanford in G.

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 11 Choral Euch, O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Non vos relinquam (Byrd), Lift up your heads (Gibbons), Ven J Burton; 4 Choral E, Walmisley in D minor, God is gone up (Finzi).

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL, College Green: 7.40 M; 8,10 HC; 11 Benefactors' Service, Canon J Davies; 3.30 Choral E, Stanford in C, God is gone up (Finzi), Rev R Miller.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M, Rev P Hullah; 11 S Euch, Psallite Domino (Byrd), Rev C Cesaretti; 3.15 E, Purcell in B flat, O clap your hands (Gibbons), 3.15 E; 6.30 Compline.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 7.45 M; 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Coronation Mass (Mozart), Transports de Joie (Messiaen), The Dean; 3 E, Stanford in A, Hallelujah Chorus (Handel).

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, The Provost; 9.30 Euch, Canon B Thompson; 11.15 Civic Service, Te Deum (Sumsion in G), God is gone up (Finzi), The Provost; 6 Festival E, Westminster Service (Howells), The Dean.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Choral Euch, Little Organ Mass (Haydn); 11.30 Choral M, O clap your hands together (M Greene), Rev Dr J Gibbs; 3.30 Civic Choral E & Welcoming of Lord Mayor, Canon M Rees; 6.30 E, The Archdeacon of Macclesfield.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Collegium Regale (Howells), Coelos ascendit (Stanford); 11 S Euch, O God the king of glory (Gibbons), The Very Rev B Horlock; 3.30 E, God is gone up (Finzi).

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Oxford: 8 HC; 10 M & Sermon, Jubilate (Britten), Canon Ward; 11.15 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), O rex gloriae (Palestrina), The Archdeacon; 6 E, St John's Service (Tippett), God is gone up (Finzi).

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 Communion; 10.30 Euch, Mass in C (Mozart), Lift thine eyes (Mendelssohn), Ascendit Deus (Philips), Rev B Hinksman; 5.30 E, Lift thine eyes (Mendelssohn), St Mark's Service (Near).

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Canon D Hodgson; 9.30 M, Canon D Brown; 11 HC, Mass in C (Beethoven), Rev M Parker; 3.30 E, Ireland in F, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Rev J Mason; 6.30 Durham School E.

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Mozart in G (KV 140), Ascendit Deus (Philips), Ave verum corpus (Mozart), The Dean; 3.45 E, Wood in G, God is gone up (Finzi).

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch, Darke in F, Let all mortal flesh (Bairstow), The Sub Dean; 11.15 M, Te Deum (Statham in F), the Dean; 3 E, God is gone up (Finzi); 6.30 E, Most glorious Lord of life (Harris), the Priest Vicar.

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Canon Dr M Palmer; 9.45 S Euch, O salutaris hostia (Nicholson), Canon J Schofield; 11.15 M, Lift up your heads (Mathias), Canon D Bryant; 6.30 E, Chichester Service (Walton), God is gone up (Finzi), Mr C Vane-Tempest.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M; 10.30 Euch, Mozart in C, Christ whose glory fills the skies (Darke), Canon A Thiselton; 4 Choral E, God is gone up (Finzi), Canon A Robinson.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Bell'amfitrit'altera (Lassus), Jubilate in C (Boyce), O mysterium ineffabile (Lallouette), The Chancellor; 3.30 E & Procession, Second Service (Byrd), O clap your hands (Gibbons).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8,12 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Schubert in G, Rev G Cray; 11.15 M, Coelos ascendit hodie (Stanford), The Dean; 3.45 E, Kelly in C, Viri Galilaei (Gowers).

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 8 MP & HC; 10.30 Euch, Canon N Vincent; 3 Choral E with Installation of Honorary Canons; 4 HC.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & L; 8,12.15 H Euch, Rev N Court; 9 Parish Euch, Rev N Court; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (S Preston), The Dean; 3.30 Choral E, Ascendit Deus (Philips); 6.30 Parish E & Sermon, Mr K Hall.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 MP; 9 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Service in G (Jackson), Great Lord of Lords (Gibbons), Canon J Atherton; 6.30 E, God is gone up (Finzi), Canon A Radcliffe.

NEWPORT CATHEDRAL: 12 Euch to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Diocese of Monmouth, Cwmbran Stadium.

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 9.30 M, Te Deum in G, Jubilate (Shephard); 10.30 *Euch, Jackson in G, The Chancellor; 3.30 E, O* clap your hands (Vaughan Williams).

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Canon D Durston; 10 Euch, All people clap your hands (Weelkes), Canon D Durston; 11.30 M, Te Deum in B flat (Stanford), Above all praise (Mendelssohn); 3 E, Murrill in E, God is gone up (Finzi); 4.30 Holy Baptism; 5 Wessex Walks.

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 MP; 11 Civic Service, God is gone up (Finzi), The Provost; 5.30 EP; 6.30 Euch, People's Mass, O clap your hands (Gibbons), Ven S Lowe.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 11 Choral Euch, Mass (Stravinsky); Coelos ascendit hodie (Stanford), Viri Galilei (Plainsong), Rev M Kitchen; 3 Choral E, God is gone up (Finzi), The Provost.

SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 9.30 Parish C, The Short Service (Gibbons), Thou God of wisdom (Gibbons), The Provost; 3.15 E, O clap your hands (Gibbons); 5.45 Healing Service, Rev H Wilcox.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch, St Nicholas Mass (Haydn), The Chancellor; 4 Truro Trek Service; 6 E, Gloucester Service (Howells), Rev P Pettitt.

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 Parish C; 11 Solemn Euch, Mass for Two Choirs (Widor), Jubilate (Britten in C), Coelos ascendit (Stanford), Canon D Baxter; 6.30 Solemn E & Installation of Dean, Stanford in G, The Archdeacon.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Stanford in C, O Lord give thy Holy Spirit (Tallis), Rev G Farran; 11.30 M & Holy Baptism, O thou the central orb (Wood); 3 E, My beloved spake (Hadley), The Very Rev R Lewis.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Festival Te Deum in E (Britten), God is gone up (Finzi), Canon A Harvey; 11.15 Euch, Libera nos (Sheppard), Non vos relinquam orphanos (Byrd), Canon D Hutt; 3 E, Dyson in D, O clap your hands (Vaughan Williams), Canon A Harvey; 5.45 Organ Recital; 6.30 E, Canon C Semper.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 12; 5.30, 7 Masses; 10 MP; 10.30 Solemn M, Mass for double choir (Martin), Ascendit Deus (Philips); 3.30 Solemn V & B, Magnificat octavi toni (Tallis), Non vos relinquam orphanos (Byrd), Veni Creator (de Grigny); 4.30 Recital.

YORK MINSTER: 8,8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Missa festiva (Peeters), O salutaris hostia (Tallis), Rev Prof E Norman; 11.30 M, Britten in E and C; 4 E, Jesus College Service (Mathias), Rev J Cooper.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Coelos Ascendit (Stanford), The Canon in Residence; 3.30 Choral E, God is gone up (Finzi).

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8,10,6 LM; 11.30 Solemn M, L'Hora Passa (Viadana), Regina Coeli (Lotti), Fr P Turner; 3 Annual Sacrament of the Sick.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 Morning HC, The Minister; 10 The General Assembly Service, Right Rev J McIndoe, O clap your hands (Gibbons); 11.30 Morning HC, Ascendens Christus (Victoria), The Minister; 6 Belhaven Consort; 8 Evening, The Minister.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 8.45 M; 11 S Euch, *Dark in F*, Jubilate Deo in B flat (Stanford), Above all praise and all majesty (Mendelssohn), Rev M Saward; 3.15 E, Viri Galilei (Gowers), Rev J Lees; 5.15 Organ Recital.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8,5.15 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Missa Sanctae Mariae Magdelenae (L Webber), Rev I Davies; 6 E&B, Nicholson in D flat, Rev I Davies.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 Communion; 11 Bishop P Barnett; 6.30 All Souls Orchestra, Rev R Tice.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa O magnum mysterium (Vittoria), O rex gloriae (Marenzio), Teach me Thy way (Fox).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8,12.15 HC; 10 Children's; 11 M, God is gone up (Finzi), Rev Dr P Elvy; 6 E, Rev D Bean.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15 Rev D Townsend; 6.30 Rev S Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 8, 9.30, 12.30, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 Solemn M, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), Ascendit Deus (Gwinner).

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa Triste Depart (Lassus), Non vos relinquam orphanos (Donati); 12.30, 4.30, 7 Mass; 3.30 V & B, Non vos relinquam (Byrd)

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Iverna Gdns, W8: 11 Holy M, Archbishop Y Gizirian.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45,11 Rev S Burgess.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11 HC, Rev Dr P Graves; 6.30 MAYC London Weekend, Rev Dr P Graves.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Rev P Schmiege; 7 Bach Vespers, Cantata 11 Ascension Oratorio (Bach), Rev P Schmeige

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Festal Communion Service (Stanford), Rev S Cutt; 6.30 E, He that descended man to be (Amner), The Rector.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, Jubilate (Gibbons 2nd Service), Ireland in C, Ascendens Christiens in altum (Victoria), Guild Chaplain Canon B Christianson; 6.30 Choral E, Magnificat/Nunc Dimittis (Byrd 2nd service), Guild Chaplain W Boulton.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 Choral Euch, Communion, Darke in F, O God the king of glory (Gibbons), Rev E Core.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11,6.30 Rev C MacLeod

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 9,11 Masses, Missa Viri Galilaei (Palestrina).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Blake in D, The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 Euch, 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Leighton), Viri Galilaei (Coulliart), Rev B Wilson; 6 Choral E, 3rd Service (Byrd), God is gone up (Croft).

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Rev D Reeves; 5.45 EP.

ST JOHN'S, Stratford E15: 11 Family C, Rev D Richards; 6.30 EP & Praise, David Richards.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8, 12.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, God is gone up (Finzi), Rev S Watson; 6.30 Songs of Praise.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Messe solenelle (Vierne), Coelos ascendit hodie (Stanford), Sis H Markey.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8,12.30 HC, Rev B Schunemann; 9.45 S Euch, O Rex Gloriae (Marenzio); 11.30 Visitors, Te Deum in Bb (Stanford), Achieved is the glorious work (Haydn), The Vicar; 2.45 Chinese, Rev J Bennett; 5 Choral E; 6.30 Evening, Rev A Hurst.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington W8: 8,12.30 HC; 9.30 Parish Euch, Rev F Gelli; 11.15 Choral M, Rev P Stubbs; 6.30 E, Mr N Pain.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9,10,7 LM; 11 HM, Missa Papae Marcelli (Palestrina), Canon Lord Pilkington; 6 Solemn E & B.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Who is the King of glory? (A Gant), Rev T Clark.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8,9 HC; 11 Solemn Euch, Collegium Regale (Howells), God is gone up (Finzi), Canon C Coussmaker.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 S Euch, Missa Ascendens Christus (Victoria), O clap your hands (Vaughan Williams), Alleluyas (S Preston), Fr D Tillyer.

ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner St, SW3: 11 Choral C, Missa de Angelis, Ascendo ad Patrem (Palestrina), Ave verum (Mozart), Rev M Barney; 6.30 E, Rev B Hughes.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M & Sermon, Te Deum, First Service (Hunt), O God the King of glory (Gibbons), Canon J G M W Murphy.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Ascendit Deus (Philips), Canon A Caesar.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC (1662); 11 M, Britten in C, O clap your hands (Gibbons); 3.30 E, combined choirs Chapels Royal St James's & Hampton Court Palace, Remember not Lord (Purcell), Collegium Regale (Wood in F), Faire is the heaven (Harris).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Little Organ Mass (Haydn), Prelude Fugue & Chaconne in G (Buxtehude), Mrs Diana Webster.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Te Deum (Gibbons), O God the king of glory (Purcell), The Ven G Austin; 12.30 HC.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Te Deum Laudamus (Leighton), Jubilate Deo (Walford Davies in G 'Festal'), God is gone up (Finzi), The Very Rev T Evans.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, God is gone up with a merry noise (Pearmain), O clap your hands (Greene), Band of the Grenadier Guards, The Chaplain; 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, Ireland in C, Lift up your heads (Batten), Rev M Gudgeon.

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FAX: 0171 481 9313

Happy are those whom you choose, O God, and bring near to remain in your courts. Grant us in abundance the bounty of your house, of your holy temple.
Psalm 65 : 4 (REB)

BIRTHS

ATTERTON – On May 16th at The Portland Hospital, to Charles and Rhona (née Hall), a son, Edward James, a brother for Ella.

BARON – On May 9th 1996 at Billinge Hospital, to Yvonne (née Barringer) and Alan, a tiny son, Richard Andrew, a brother for James.

BEETHAM – On February 29th, to Ailbhe and Alexander, a son, Rory Alexander Michael.

COLLEY-KANE – On May 4th 1996 at The Portland Hospital, to Blanaid and Jeremy, a daughter, Tara and son, Lochlainn. Sadly, their sister Orla, survived only briefly after birth. Our thanks for their loving care to all the staff at The Portland.

DREY – On May 14th, to Jennifer (née Hardaker) and William, a daughter, Anna Cecily.

GODWIN – On May 13th at Lenox Hill Hospital, New York City, to Emma (née Cederwell) and Ralph, a daughter, Olivia Caroline Martyn.

GOLDSTEIN – On April 23rd at The Portland Hospital, to Claudia and Anthony, a son, Oliver Jack, a brother to Natasha and Marisa.

GRAINGER – To Lottie (née Tempest-Radford) and Martin at home on 15th May a son, Theodore Joseph George, a brother for Leonora, Annabel, Serena and Georgia.

BIRTHS

KENT – On 9th May 1996 at The Matilda Hospital, Hong Kong, to Rachel (née Paterson) and Ronald, a daughter, Rebecca Annie Jean, a sister for Benjamin, Sarah, Hannah and Esther.

LYNAS – On Tuesday 14th May 1996, to Clare (née Rankin) and Michael, a son, Archie Michael Niall.

MASON – Rebecca Alma was born to Mike and Caroline (née Sammels) on 18th March 1996.

NANDWANI – On May 7th 1996, to Ruth (née Wallace) and Rakesh, a son, Joshua William Wallace, a brother for Beth.

PARSONS – On May 16th at George Town Hospital, Grand Cayman, to Ruth (née Preston) and Jeremy, a daughter, Anna Lucy Madeleine.

PEACH – On May 4th, to Ann (née Jenkins) and Mark, a son, Edward Harry David, a brother for Olivia.

PHILLIPS – On 16th May, to Claire (née Haggard) and Rory, a daughter, Imogen.

POCOCK – On Tuesday 14th May, to Jessica (née Cantlie) and Jonathan, a daughter, Phoebe Katharine Mary. Stunning.

ROBBS – On May 10th at The Portland Hospital, to Doris and Christian, a daughter, Athina, a sister for Alexander and Christian.

VAUGHAN – On 17th May, to Helen and David, a daughter, Millie, a sister for Joe. Sincere thanks to Grantham Maternity Unit.

WYLSON – On 7th May 1996 at UCH London, to David and Rosanil, a son, James Oswald (after his great great and great-grandfather).

DEATHS

BERRY – Peacefully, on May 16th, 1996, after a long illness bravely borne, Caroline Stafford Berry of Lilliesleaf, Melrose, dearly loved mother of Dominic and John and sister of Jennifer. Funeral Service at Lilliesleaf Parish Church on Tuesday, May 21st, at 11.30 am followed by interment in Lilliesleaf Cemetery. Flowers may be sent to Thomas Brown & Sons, Funeral Directors, East Port, Melrose, or donations, if desired, to St Columba's Hospice, Boswall Road, Edinburgh EH5 3RW.

BRERETON – On 17th May 1996, Charles David Lloyd, aged 85 years of 21 Castle Bank, Stafford and formerly of Dorchester, Anglesey, Bottisham and Aberlour. Dearly loved husband of the late Barbara ("Bunny") and greatly loved father and grandfather. Funeral at Ranton Church, near Stafford on Wednesday 22nd May at 2 pm. Flowers or donations to the Macmillan Appeal and the R.S.P.B. will be received at W. Emery & Sons, County Road, Stafford. tel: (01785) 251205.

CAREY EVANS – Margaret Willoughby (née Gale) died peacefully on May 16th 1996 aged 95 years, beloved wife of the late David Carey Rees Jones Evans and mother of Julia. Funeral at Hoxne Parish Church, Suffolk, at 12 noon on Wednesday 22nd May.

DEATHS

CHEESMAN – Major Anthony Noel Kingsley, late The Life Guards aged 68 years. Peacefully on 16th May in hospital after a sudden illness in the presence of his daughter Lucinda. Much loved husband of Rosena, and grandfather of Holly. Private cremation. *Family* flowers only. No mourning at his request. Memorial Service to be announced. Donations, if wished, to National Canine Defence League, or Royal Windsor Horse Show.

DALY – Eleanore (née Gräfin Vetter von der Lilie). Peacefully at The Sue Ryder Home, Nettlebed, Oxon. on 12th May 1996, widow of Major J.H. von Reinhard and of Col. C.D. Daly. Beloved mother of Huberta Kingsbury and fabulous grandmother to Julian, Francis, Oliver and Mariella. Memorial Mass 6 pm Brompton Oratory 21st May. No flowers. Donations if desired to The Sue Ryder Home. R.I.P.

ELLIOTT – Hélène, née Cornevin. Beloved wife of Charles and loving mother of Alexander and Sébastien, on May 13th at Harefield Hospital. Services at the French Protestant Church of London, 8-9 Soho Square, W.1. at 2 pm on Wednesday, 22nd May, followed by interment of ashes at Sacy, Burgundy. No flowers, but donations if desired 'In Memory of Hélène Elliott' to British Lung Foundation, 78 Hatton Garden, London EC1N 8JR.

DEATHS

HANNAFORD – Tony. Lt. Col., died on May 13th. Dearly loved father of Mickey, fond father-in-law of Alison, special grandpop of Stephanie and Thomas.

HAYES – Joan, on 16th May 1996, tragically in a car accident in the United States, wife of Bill, President of St John's College, Oxford, and mother of Julia, Robert and Stephen.

HILL – Julia Elizabeth (née Kellett) on May 15th, very suddenly but peacefully in Pembury Hospital, devoted mother of Clive and Philippa and a much loved sister. Funeral Service at St Botolph's Church, Chevening, near Sevenoaks, 3.30 pm Friday May 24th. Donations in her memory to Royal Opera House Trust, Covent Garden.

HURST – On May 15th at home Robert Hurst C.B.E., G.M., F.R.S.C., Ph.D., much loved husband of Rae and father of Jonathan, Charles and Nicholas and beloved grandpa to James and Grace, Marta and Lucas. Funeral Service to be held at Poole Crematorium on Friday May 24th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired for the R.N.L.I. or the British Diabetic Association may be sent to Tapper Funeral Service, 32-34 Parkstone Road, Poole, tel: (01202) 673164.

DEATHS

TUCKER – On 14th May, Lt. Col. K.W.C. (Ken) Tucker RA (Retd) at home in Mursley, Buckinghamshire. Widower of Liz, father of Michael and Philip and grandfather of Laurence and Edmund. In his words, he joined Liz sooner than he had expected but remained bright, alert and humorous to the end. Private funeral service at St Mary's, Mursley on Thursday 23rd May. A service of thanksgiving will be held at St Mary's at 2 pm on Friday 7th June to which all are welcome. Flowers to Heritage & Sons, High Street, Winslow.

WEBB – Ivy Patricia, aged 86 years of Emmbrook Court, Reading entered her heavenly home on May 15th, 1996 after a very happy useful life which sadly ended in pain and suffering. At all times she was upheld by the love of her God, sister Elsie and many faithful friends. Private family funeral followed by a Service of Celebration of Ivy's life at St Peter's Church, Earley at 3pm on Thursday 23rd May. All friends welcome, no black ties. Family flowers only but if desired donations to either 'Christian Aid or Church Mission Society' may be sent to A.B. Walker and Son Limited, 36 Eldon Road, Reading RG1 4DL.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

WOOD – There will be a Thanksgiving Service for Gordon Bigland Wood O.B.E. at St Mary The Virgin, Fen Ditton, Cambridge, on Friday May 31st at 12 noon.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

CRESSWELL – John. Our Ruby wedding day. May 19th. Forever in my heart. Bird.

DUNKLEY – Renée. Abiding loving memory. Ken and Anthony.

HOWARD-JONES – Jonah on his birthday 18th May 1915-1992 and every day in loving memory. Caroline.

ROSENFELD – Ben in ever loving memory of my beloved husband who passed away fifteen years ago. Always in my thoughts and deeply missed. Jackie.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

PITT:ORMROD – On May 18th 1946 at Abbey Foregate Congregational Church, Shrewsbury, Lt (S) Graham L.B. Pitt RNVR to Mary P. Ormrod. Now in Old Harlow, Essex. Thanks be to God.

DOMESTIC & CATERING SITUATIONS

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TICKETS FOR SALE
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FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES AND MARRIAGES ETC

Over the Bank Holiday the following deadline will apply:
Notices to appear on Saturday May 25th, Monday May 27th and Tuesday May 28th must be received in writing by 5pm on Thursday May 23rd. All notices are accepted subject to confirmation.

Please send Court Page announcements by post/fax to:
Mrs J. Neenan, Court & Social Advertising, Level 5, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9BD.
Tel: 0171 782 7347. Fax 0171 481 9313.
On Court Page £11.50 per line plus VAT.

Please include in all correspondence: a signature of either one of the parties concerned or a parent, a daytime and home telephone number and address.

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OBITUARIES

ADMIRAL JEREMY BOORDA

Admiral Jeremy M. Boorda, United States Chief of Naval Operations, died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound in Washington on *May 16 aged 57*. He was born in South Bend, Indiana, on November 26, 1938.

JEREMY BOORDA — always known *as Mike* — was the *first man in the* history of the United States Navy to rise from the lowest rank of sailor to become a four-star admiral in 1991. He was a short man, standing just 5ft 4in tall, and would be physically dwarfed by almost any naval officer who chose to stand next to him. But this in no way undermined *his* confident manner. He was a persuasive public speaker, and he had the ability to hold an audience's attention completely, for 45 minutes or an hour, without any props or notes. *On a one-to-one basis, he was equally* at ease and effective with a president, defence minister or an ordinary sailor. But there was, behind this confident public behaviour, an enigmatic side to him, and a reluctance to confide *his* problems *in* any but the closest of friends.

The period of his career in which Boorda achieved most in the international theatre came during the early 1990s. From 1991 to 1994 he wore a dual hat, in his responsibilites to the US Navy and to Nato. As Commander-in-Chief of US Naval Forces in Europe, he regularly visited his staff in Grosvenor Square for briefings.

He spent the bulk of his time, *however, in* Naples. Although *he had* never seen combat himself, he was responsible during his tenure as Commander-in-Chief of Nato's forces in Southern Europe for conducting the first offensive operation by Nato in the former Yugoslavia. His responsibilities included the command of land, air and naval forces.

He transformed the operational staff *in* Naples. When he first arrived, *this* was a sleepy operation which had not been called upon in any combative role for the past fifty years, and which had hitherto restricted itself to pre-planned *military* exercises. With the *onset of* civil war in the former Yugoslavia, Nato started to take on, piece by piece, a much stronger role in the area. Boorda was responsible for masterminding the UN embargo against *the* former Yugoslavia in the Adriatic, the air drops, the no-fly zone, and then for implementing the first airstrikes against Bosnian Serbs. He oversaw these operations *personally at every* step of the way. He went to Croatia often, mostly to negotiate with the United Nations over airstrikes, and visited Bosnia several times. He visited *the ships in the Adriatic, and was* excellent at *raising staff* morale there.

His *decision* in 1994 to launch a successful airstrike against Bosnian Serb aircraft flying in violation of the United Nations ban was a wrenching one for Boorda. But it was, with hindsight, only the prelude to even tougher decisions when he was elevated to the US Navy's top post, that of Chief of Naval Operations in April 1994.

Boorda took over a service whose morale was at a *low ebb. His* predecessor, Admiral Frank Kelso, had taken early retirement under a *cloud after criticism of his handling* of the notorious Tailhook scandal in 1991. Kelso described himself as the "lightning rod" for criticism of this affair, when female officers complained that *they had been physically molested by* a group of inebriated officers at a convention in Las Vegas.

Boorda handled the problem with common sense, but refused to sweep *the issue under the carpet. His sympa*thies were with the victims in this case, and he stood by them, whether this was politically comfortable or not. He argued in favour of accelerating the *process of placing women in combat* roles in surface ships, and trusted that, with the changing cultural climate, such an incident would not repeat itself. This proved with hindsight to have been *optimistic. More allegations* of sexual misconduct followed, and Boorda last November was driven to call for the entire Navy to stand down from its usual timetable for a single day, in order to take "a hard look" at itself.

At the same time, the size of the Service was being reduced under the Clinton Administration's defence cuts, and there were widespread rumours of drug use among naval personnel. There were more newsworthy inci*dents to come: the exposure of rampant* cheating among cadets at the Annapolis Naval Academy, further sexual *scandals, and a series of unexplained* fatal crashes by carrier-based aircraft on training flights.

With his relatively modest family background, his reputation for being a *"sailor's sailor," caring more about the* people under his command than about planes and ships. Boorda seemed the ideal man to cope with such crises.

Jeremy Michael Boorda was the son *of Jewish immigrants from Ukraine*, whose parents had opened a dress shop in a small Indiana town, fifty miles south of Chicago. Despite his slight build, he was a reasonable *athlete at school, playing football and* baseball.

It was not, in other ways, a happy upbringing: with his parents' marriage in disarray, Boorda began to drink heavily while still in his teens and frequently played truant from school. At 17 he dropped out of school altogether and lied about his age to enlist in the Navy.

At first he hated the rigours of basic training, but then the discipline of Navy life began to grow on him. He told a group of recruits in San Diego in 1989, when he was Chief of Navy Personnel: "The Navy replaced alcohol. The Navy filled in some of the things that had been missing in my *life. I still wanted to go home, but I* wanted to go home wearing a uniform that said I was something special — that said I had done it."

His personal troubles, however, *were far from over. He had married at* the age of 19, but his first son David suffered from a rare congenital disease, and was severely physically and mentally handicapped. Though the child survived, he had to undergo 17 operations by the time he was four.

Boorda began his naval career in 1956 as a *humble* clerk, but was encouraged by an officer to seek admission to a programme to turn enlisted men into officers. He remonstrated that he did not even have a high *school diploma, and that with* a large young family — which might restrict his mobility as far as postings were concerned — he would not make an ideal candidate. However, he was eventually persuaded to apply, was accepted and by 1962 he had graduated from Officer Candidate School and *went to sea.*

During the Vietnam War, serving initially as an instructor, he began a rapid rise through the ranks from ensign to lieutenant-commander. He went on to command a minesweeper and later the guided missile destroyer *Farragut*. There he was known for his original *methods of leadership.* Among other exercises, he would occasionally order a number of his crew to play "dead" to see how the ship would operate without him.

Boorda did not see combat in Vietnam, and was thus disqualified from wearing a golden "V" on his medal ribbons from that war. The fact that he dared to risk being photo*graphed in one — a piece of conceit* which seemingly went against every other aspect of the man — astonished and dumbfounded his friends. It was a piece of folly which contradicted everything else he stood for (although he was known to be notoriously generous in handing out medals to his men, almost, it was felt, to a fault). It was this error, the subject of an on-going inquiry from *Newsweek*, which is thought to have led to his suicide.

On his return from Vietnam, Boorda *served in the Pentagon* as a personnel officer, then went back to sea as the commander of a destroyer squadron. He was later executive assistant to the Chief of Naval Operations, command*er of a cruiser destroyer group, and* then Chief of Naval Personnel. He was particularly effective in this post. Having come up the hard way himself, he never lost his ability to understand *the concerns of the ordinary sailor.* This gave him the ability to talk to a group of sailors about the issues which personally affected them — the question of their career plans or pay raises, for example. In 1991 he took over in Naples, in command of Nato forces.

His time as Chief of Naval Operations was brief — just over two years (the post is usually held for four). But one of his major achievements after joining the Joint Chiefs of Staff was to advance the prospects of women in the Navy, permitting them for the first time to pilot naval warplanes, and to serve in most classes of warships except submarines.

Mike Boorda is survived by his wife Bettie, and by one daughter and three sons.

HENRY CLARKE

A model photographed by Henry Clarke for British *Vogue* in 1951

Henry Clarke, fashion photographer, died on April 28 aged 77. He was born on December 16, 1918.

HENRY CLARKE worked prolifically for *Vogue* magazine during the 1950s, and helped to define the impossibly glamorous ideal of female beauty which dominated that decade. His strength as a fashion photographer lay in his genuine interest in women's clothing: his pictures showed how dresses hung and how they were cut. It was this *straightforward attention* which endeared him both to designers and to American *Vogue*'s Editor-in-Chief Diana Vreeland, a staunch admirer *of his work.*

It was said that Clarke provided one of the models for Fred Astaire's character in *Funny Face*: the American in Paris, impeccably dressed and with the fastidious habits of a lifelong bachelor. He was born in Los Angeles, and moved with his parents all over America as a child, although the only hint of his origins which he allowed himself later on was a faint mid-Atlantic drawl. He began his career as a display manager for I. Magnin, the shop in Oakland, but was then inspired by the example of Cecil Beaton to become a photographer. In 1948 he joined *Vogue*'s New York studio as a set builder, and studied under *Alexei Brodovitch (who also* taught Irving Penn and Richard Avedon how to use a camera) at the New York School for Social Research. After that he took up residence in Paris, as a photographer for the fashion house of Molyneux.

There was a short spell for British *Harper's Bazaar*, where he discovered one of the most successful models of the 1950s. He spotted the 18-year-old Anne Gunning sitting in a restaurant in the King's Road, approached her and asked her to pose for him. She agreed, worked with him solidly for a week and, with this useful publicity, launched her career. Later she married Sir Anthony Nutting, the former Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and before that Anthony *Eden's parliamentary private* secretary.

At *Vogue*, Clarke liked to work with the model Suzy Parker. He signed up with Condé Nast in 1951 and negotiated an unusually beneficial contract which allowed him to submit work to the American, British and French editions and which meant that, during the 1950s, his name was apparently everywhere.

Vogue in those days favoured a rather arch style of photography in which models were presented less as professionals who posed for money, and more as aristocratic beauties who had graciously allowed themselves to be photographed in their drawing rooms. Clarke inherited and worked *within this unrealistic* tradition, but introduced into it some of the wit and speed of photojournalism. He might photograph an impossibly lithe, haughty-looking woman wearing a Schiaparelli silk ballgown in the middle of a dusty street or being watched by a camel in a Middle-Eastern bazaar. He did a good deal of location work in those early days of jet travel, when magazine budgets stretched to long shoots in the Lebanon and Syria, but he also took his Rolleiflex camera to the spring and summer *haute couture* collections.

Clarke showed a courtier-like attentiveness to the whims of his sitters, an attitude which allowed him rare access to celebrities during the 1950s. He composed flattering por*traits of Sophia Loren, Anna* Magnani, the Guinness girls and Coco Chanel.

He weathered the 1960s with its informal style of photography reasonably well. However, as the decade drew to a close, he gradually restricted himself to the Paris edition of *Vogue*, being naturally more sympathetic to the *haute couture*-dominated fashion business in France than he was to the sporty and experimental looks then gaining ground in New York and London. He finally retired to a small village in the South of France. Although he was no longer actively involved in the fashion world, he had the satisfaction of seeing a younger generation of fashion pho*tographers inspired by his* elegant, witty compositions.

BRIGADIER THE REV CHARLES HARRIS

Brigadier the Rev Charles Harris, one of the last surviving Indian *Army* cavalry commanders, died on May 4 aged 99. He was born on May 10, 1896.

"JOHN" HARRIS, *as he was* unaccountably known, inspired an entire generation of the Indian Army. He himself fought in both world wars, in the trenches and across the desert, and was mentioned in dispatches in North Africa. In 1917 he charged with the cavalry at Cambrai, through a hail of machinegun bullets and across the barbed wire.

He served on India's North-West Frontier, *won countless* trophies for polo and pigsticking and "bagged" both a tiger and a bear under the Raj. *Yet he came from a long line of* parish priests and, on leaving the Army at the age of 50, reverted to the family tradition by settling down to life as a country clergyman — celebrating the birth of his third child when nearly 70.

Charles Edwin Laurence Harris, *then known as* "Laurie", was born and brought up in London. He saw little of his father, who worked on the *stock exchange in South Afri*ca, and spent happy holidays with his grandparents at their home in a country vicarage near Hereford.

On leaving St Paul's School he went to work for an oil company in Mexico, returning to join the Artists' Rifles on the outbreak of the First World War. Sent to India for officer training, Harris (rechristened "John" by the Army) returned to France to join the 2nd Lancers — once known as that famous Indian Army regiment of irregulars, Gardner's Horse. *The regiment was con*verted briefly to an infantry role in the trenches after its mauling at Cambrai, and was later sent to serve under *Allenby in the Near East until* the end of the war.

It was between the two wars that "John" Harris established his reputation in the Indian Army, chiefly as an instructor and staff officer. He also taught at Sandhurst before becoming a student at the Indian Army Staff College in Quetta, where the future Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck was chief instructor. He was on the staff at Meerut, Simla and Delhi, serving at one time under Brigadier Lord Gort who later became Com*mander-in-Chief of the British* Expeditionary Force in France at the start of the Second World War. As a cavalry instructor at Quetta he also *served under* the future Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery.

Harris was given command of the 2nd Lancers in 1941 and supervised its mechanisation with armoured cars before leading it in Egypt and the Western Desert. Promoted brigadier, Harris was later mentioned in dispatches while commanding the Desert Brigade in action against Rommel's Panzers. He next commanded a brigade of Gurkhas before returning to Delhi as deputy director of military training — *with special em*phasis on jungle warfare. *From there he joined General Slim's 14th Army* headquarters in Western Bengal — only to be sent back to Britain with malaria and pneumonia.

On retiring from the Army *shortly after the war he went* to Ridley Hall, the Anglican theological college at Cambridge and, on being ordained, began work as a *curate in Dorchester* — also serving as chaplain to the local prison.

From there he was given the living of Burbage, Wiltshire, where he firmly resisted a proposed merger with a neighbouring parish. In 1965 he *retired for the second time,* moving to a village near Dover. He continued to take local services, however, and conducted his last one aged 98 — by which time he had endured two hip replacements. An avowed traditionalist, he insisted on using the Book of Common Prayer.

In 1993 he was invited by the British Legion to play a prominent role in the Westminster Abbey service, attended by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, to mark the 75th *anniversary of the end of the* First World War. He stood, as *straight as a gun* barrel before the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior to recite in ringing tones Laurence Binyon's famous lines from *For the Fallen*.

A spirited, outgoing person who loved company, he declared his intention of being photographed on a horse on his 100th birthday — in a last act of defiance against old age. *Steps had already been taken* to procure an appropriately docile mount. But it was not to be. Harris died, following a fall, six days before his centenary.

His first wife Audrey, whom he married in 1928, died in 1961. *He is survived by his* second wife Margaret and by three daughters — two from his first marriage and one from his second.

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
NO. 002447 OF 1996
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
In the matter of GYPROC INSULATION LIMITED
and in the matter of the Companies Act 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 30th April 1996 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the cancellation of the share premium account and the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £500,000 to £287,822.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Petition is directed to be heard before the Registrar of the Companies Court sitting in open court, at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 12th day of June 1996.

ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said cancellation of the share premium account and reduction of the capital of the said Company should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this 14th day of May 1996
Lace Mawer, Castle Chambers, 43 Castle Street, Liverpool L2 9SU. Ref: LPP. Solicitors for the above-named Company.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

ALBERT EDWARD CHARLES MOSS
Deceased
Notice pursuant to Section 27 of the Trustee Act 1925

Any person having a claim or an interest in the estate of Albert Edward Charles Moss of 45 Little Bushey Lane, South Oxhey, Herts who died 15th December 1995 are required to send particulars in writing of their claim or interest to the undersigned solicitors on or before the 19th July 1996 after which date the Administrators will proceed to distribute the estate among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interest of which they have had notice.
DATED 23rd April 1996
D.R. SHERIDAN & CO. 106 High Street, Bushey, Herts WD2 3DE. Solicitors for the administrators.

DIAMOND, Yetta of 62 De Bohun Avenue, Southgate N14 died on 14th February 1996 particulars to Tringhams Solicitors of 26 Dorset Street, London W1M 3FU before 19th July 1996

GORMLEY, Audrey of 70 Portmore Park Road, Weybridge, Surrey died on 29 December 1995 particulars to The Sheldon Partnership Solicitors of 45-41 Whitfield Street, London W1P 5RJ before 19 July 1996.

PYKE Joseph Edward 53 Ladbroke Road, London, W.11. 3 January 1996, Bird & Bird (Solicitors), 90 Fetter Lane, London, EC4A 1JP by 19 July 1996

TRUSTEE ACTS

PULLEY, Charles St John of Sutton Hospital in Charterhouse, Charterhouse Square, London EC1 died on 17 October 1995 particulars to Alsop Wilkinson Solicitors of 6 Dowgate Hill, London EC4R 2SS (Ref: MLD) before 19 July 1996

SITUATIONS VACANT

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SELMA RATNER and / or Cyril Ratner and / or Max Ratner. Searching for birth mother and family. Maiden name Selma Ratner, married Sam Fridlander of Canada 1945. Cyril Ratner was POW, WW II. Please respond via C. Smith 01223 276855 a/machine.

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ON THIS DAY

May 18, 1886

As Grove puts it, Anton Rubinstein's playing was compared with Liszt's, to the disadvantage of neither. Rubinstein died in 1894.

RUBINSTEIN'S VISIT

The excitement into which our musical world was thrown by Liszt's brief stay in London has scarcely subsided and already we are expecting another visit *from a pianist and composer scarcely* less famous than he. Rubinstein's name has been very prominently before the public of various countries during the last few months. His latest and, as it is feared, his last concert-tour has made a sensation in every centre of musical Europe. At Brussels, St. Petersburg, and Leipzic he has filled the largest concert-halls to be found in those cities to overflowing, and in Paris the accesses to the Eden Theatre were on Monday last week *crowded by carriages up* till midnight, when his last recital came to a close.

The sums realized by him are stated to be fabulous, all but equal, indeed, to the golden rain which descended upon Madame Patti during her recent tour in Spain and Portugal. But of this Rubinstein takes little heed. A large part of the proceeds of his Russian concerts he devoted to the foundation of a scholarship for composition, and in Paris, when the poor artists found it impossible to pay his prices, he gave all his recitals over again for their special benefit. It was at one of these extra concerts that his strength gave way under his Herculean task and that he fainted at the piano.

In his contempt for money Rubinstein resembles Liszt, and not in that alone. Liszt is by all musicians, and by none more willingly than by Rubinstein himself, admitted to be the first pianist of the age. But if the claims to the place of what we may call *secundus inter pares* were put to the vote, it is probable that the majority of disinterested opinions would be given for Rubinstein. He does not aspire to what the Germans call the "objective style" in art. He is a creature of fancy; he plays well or ill as he happens to be in the mood, and the wrong notes he has sounded in the course of his career would be enough, as he will laughingly confess, to make the longest symphony ever written. His admirers, in fact, have to take their chance, but when that *chance is favourable the music he draws from* the piano——wrong notes and all——is an overwhelming revelation of beauty and power. His recitals are prolonged much beyond the ordinary space of time allotted to their class; they will not be varied by any intermezzo in the shape of songs or concerted pieces; the piano will reign supreme, and each concert will in its way be *a chapter of the history of music* as connected with that instrument. No fewer than eight sonatas of Beethoven will be played in succession. After this powerful dose the other performances, dealing with Schubert and Mendelssohn, and Weber and Schumann, and Liszt and Chopin, and the composers of the modern Russian school, will be received with comparative composure by patient listeners. Rubinstein's efforts in going through this gigantic programme are, of course, entirely exceptional, and it must be hoped will remain so.

THE TIMES TODAY

SATURDAY MAY 18 1996

NEWS

Embassy staff go in spy tit-for-tat

■ Russia has asked Britain to withdraw four diplomats from Moscow within the next few days. In retaliation, four Russian embassy staff were asked to leave Britain within a fortnight.

The order, handed to Sir Andrew Wood, the British Ambassador, comes after Russian accusations almost two weeks ago that British embassy staff had had links with a Russian government official accused of espionage .... **Page 1**

Howard condemns European court

■ Michael Howard delivered a tough attack on the European Court of Justice, raising the prospect of Britain clawing back powers from Brussels. Hours later, Kenneth Clarke warned Tory MPs against Europhobia .... **Page 1**

Chill grips Chelsea

The return of winter has hampered preparations for next week's Chelsea Flower show......... **Page 1**

Police may be sued

Police forces could be sued for negligence for failing to prevent crimes being committed following a decision by the European Commission of Human Rights. **Page 2**

Uproar at verdict

A millionaire auctioneer had to be led to safety from the Old Bailey amid uproar after being cleared of causing the death of a man by dangerous driving .... **Page 3**

Cancer 'coincidence'

The father of one of three classmates who contracted leukaemia said he believed the illness was a coincidence .... **Page 4**

Premier Pole

A Polish outsider has won the contest to design a landmark building at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London........... **Page 5**

Paedophile register

Convicted paedophiles will be listed on a register set up under legislation to be introduced in Parliament in the autumn .... **Page 7**

Drought 'mishandled'

Yorkshire Water failed to ensure that it had enough resources to meet demand last summer, an inquiry has found .... **Page 9**

Hostage buried

Four freed British hostages wept for an Indonesian colleague as he was buried at a cemetery in Jakarta .... **Page 12**

Suicide note apology

In a suicide note written the day before he died, the US Navy's top admiral apologised for wearing combat insignia to which he was not entitled .... **Page 15**

Pope travels on

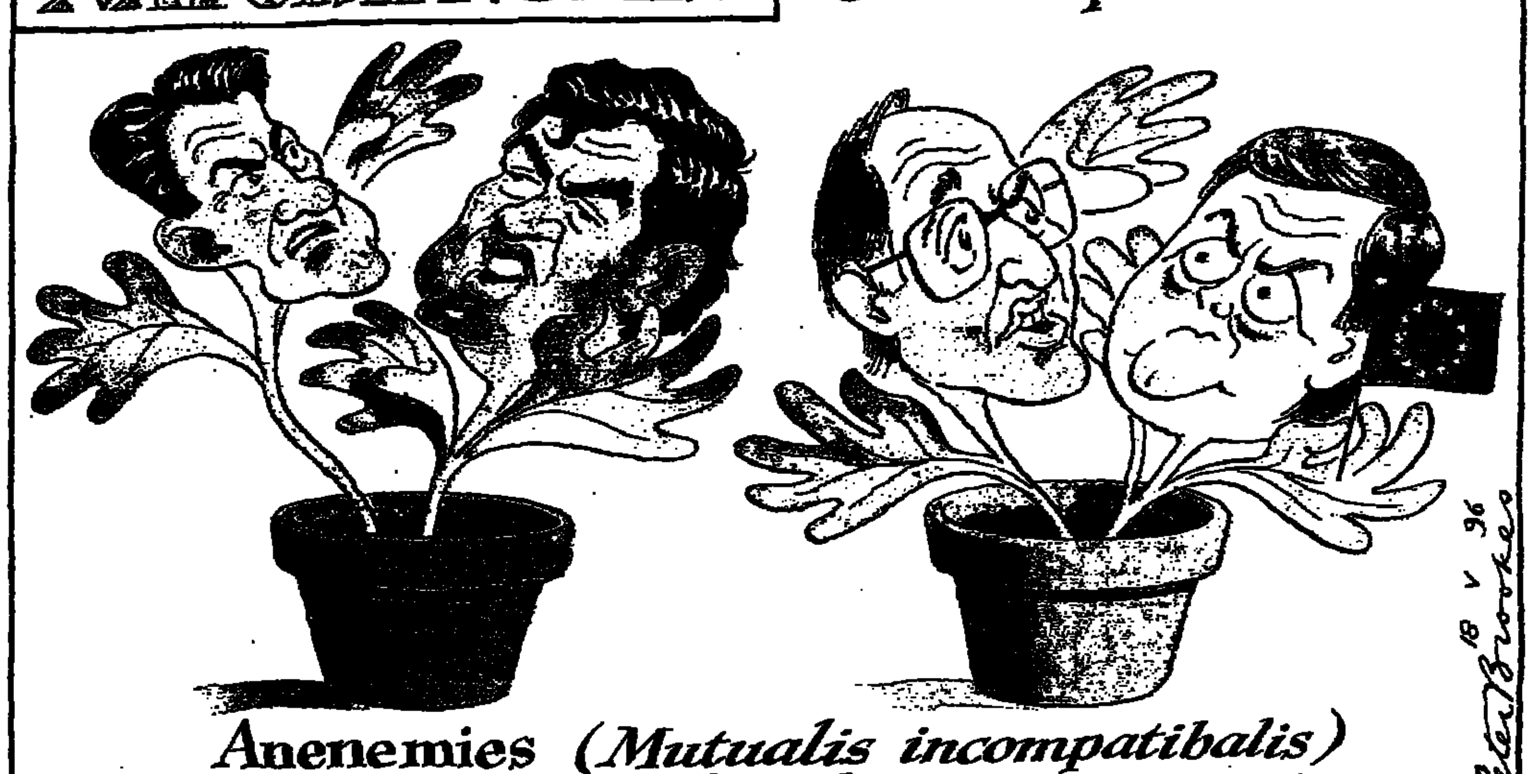
The Pope celebrates his 76th birthday today by doing what he likes best: travelling abroad .... **Page 16**

Stephen Fry tells of suicidal feelings

■ Stephen Fry, the comedian, admitted that last year he had been close to suicide. Only the devastation he would have caused family and friends stopped him taking his life after he abandoned the West End play *Cell Mates* .... **Page 8**

NATURE NOTES

Chelsea perennials



Anenemies (*Mutualis incompatibalis*)
Antipathetic shoots from the same genus restrict growth of the whole plant. Separate at root.

OPINION

History's dispossessed: The absorption or subjugation of indigenous peoples by encroachers on their land is a tale as old as time.... **Page 21**

Howard's play: The powers of the European Court of Justice annoy not just the Eurosceptics in the Tory party, but also the vast majority of their colleagues .... **Page 21**

LETTERS

HIV sufferers and fertility treatment; wind farms; metal detecting; Tories in Ulster; living wills; supermarket loyalties...................... **Page 21**

COLUMNS

Simon Jenkins: We sceptics are warned to steer clear of heroes, but Morris comes close to being mine. Quite apart from his art, I love his confidence, his success, his melancholy .... **Page 20**

Michael Gove: The tone of voice used by communitarian thinkers is deliberately cosy, a mix of the homespun and homiletic.................... **Page 20**

OBITUARIES

Admiral Jeremy M. Boorda, US Chief of Naval Operations; **Henry Clarke**, fashion photographer .... **Page 23**

ARTS

Library lessons: "Yes it hurt. No it still doesn't work. That sums up what the National Audit Office had to say about the British Library fiasco." Richard Morrison writes .... **Page 17**

Mozart at the Garden: "Glorious music; shame about the silly story," says Rodney Milnes, reviewing the Royal Opera's revival of Mozart's *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* .... **Page 17**

Limp Macbeth: In Stratford, the Royal Shakespeare Company has mounted a tame and arid staging ...... **Page 19**

BUSINESS

Power: National Power confirmed plans to pay £1.18 billion of special dividends to shareholders and promised to consider buying back more shares............. **Page 25**

Lloyd's: A High Court judge barred Lloyd's of London from seizing huge sums in court awards made to litigating names................ **Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 36 points to close at 3789.6. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 84.5 to 84.4 after a rise from $1.5119 to $1.5156 but a fall from DM2.3230 to DM2.3131 .... **Page 28**

SPORT

Cricket: At least half of England's World Cup squad may be cast aside for the Texaco Trophy series against India **Page 46**

Football: Jason Wilcox, of Blackburn, makes his debut for England against Hungary.............. **Page 48**

Golf: Colin Montgomerie had a second round of 68 to challenge the leader, Miguel Angel Jiminez, in the Benson and Hedges Open .... **Page 48**

CAR 96

Tracking speeding drivers

SECTIONS

MAGAZINE

Travelgate: the scandal at the heart of the Clinton Administration...... **Page 8**

Greg Dyke: the face behind Channel 5 ... **Page 18**

WEEKEND

Chelsea: Cashing in on the flower show **Pages 1, 2**

Offer: Win a weekend for two in Portugal .... **Page 11**

Going out: Things to do, places to see... **Pages 16, 17**

10 15

Model players: Dani, Jamie, Ginola and the team of soccer supermodels .... **Page 6**

VISION

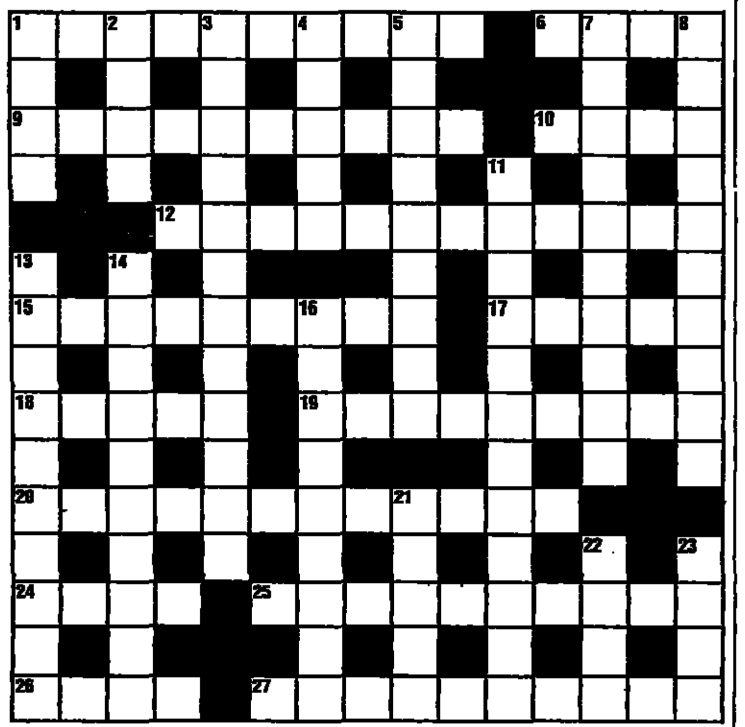
Eurovision: Terry Wogan introduces the song contest on BBC1 at 8pm tonight. Gina G flies the flag for Britain.............. **Page 3**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,171

A limited edition, 1970 vintage bottle of Aberlour single malt whisky, the only malt whisky to have twice won the prestigious Gold Medal and Pot Still Trophy at the International Wine & Spirit Competition, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address ....

....



ACROSS

1 Bound to record minutes, say, for part of the year (10).
6 Philosophical type saying why I function the wrong way (4).
9 Mould it in places as play material (10).
10 Centre of Russki events? (4).
12 Existing damage (4,2,6).
15 Keen to have one's say and take vital treatment (9).
17 Object of quest and bother, led by king (5).
18 Alice's intended, for instance, to save (5).
19 Verdict showing discrimination (9).
20 Potty Greek character thus providing classical entertainment (7,5).
24 One bird repelled these others (4).
25 Stolen and hard to move, as taps may be (3,3,4).
26 Heads off what we have no stomach for (4).
27 Upper hand in special case, note, held by Dickensian heroine (10).

DOWN

1 Family group in Ireland for a month (4).
2 Shout from river rower produced (4).
3 Battled on in a terribly bad financial position for all of us? (8,4).
4 It's not said how one can be protected by diplomacy (5).
5 Dangerous subject, once my area of interest (9).
7 Began and spoke at length without a single drink (10).
8 Supervise exam I give — Latin, possibly (10).
11 Concentrating on one affair, and unlikely to marry? (6-6).
13 Diligence, for example, shown by one who trains players? (10).
14 Where junk's found making an impression among boat collection (4,6).
16 Bad ruling — judge questioning without using head (9).
21 Practice in university followed by man of learning (5).
22 Spent what's earned, about a sovereign (4).
23 Extreme characters in England greatly affected by anxiety (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,165

S	U	F	F	I	X	■	S	W	E	L	L	I	N	G
U	■	I	■	N	■	A	■	A	■	O	■	N	■	O
B	A	S	H	F	U	L	■	R	O	U	N	D	E	D
E	■	S	■	A	■	M	■	M	■	T	■	I	■	O
D	O	U	B	L	E	S	T	O	P	■	F	A	S	T
I	■	R	■	L	■	■	■	N	■	T	■	N	■	■
T	E	E	M	I	N	G	■	G	O	U	L	A	S	H
O	■	■	■	B	■	U	■	E	■	M	■	■	■	I
R	E	S	O	L	V	E	■	R	U	B	I	C	O	N
■	■	T	■	E	■	R	■	■	■	L	■	U	■	D
C	A	R	D	■	P	R	O	S	P	E	C	T	U	S
L	■	A	■	L	■	I	■	O	■	D	■	T	■	I
A	N	T	H	I	L	L	■	F	O	O	T	I	N	G
N	■	U	■	M	■	L	■	T	■	W	■	N	■	H
G	A	M	E	P	L	A	N	■	K	N	I	G	H	T

Solution to Puzzle No 20,170

C	O	N	S	O	R	T	■	B	U	G	A	B	O	O
I	■	O	■	F	■	R	■	A	■	R	■	R	■	U
T	E	N	E	T	■	A	B	S	T	I	N	E	N	T
A	■	P	■	E	■	N	■	E	■	E	■	E	■	F
D	I	A	G	N	O	S	I	S	■	V	O	D	K	A
E	■	R	■	■	■	P	■	■	■	A	■	■	■	C
L	I	E	G	E	■	O	F	F	E	N	S	I	V	E
■	■	I	■	Y	■	R	■	O	■	C	■	N	■	■
P	O	L	Y	E	S	T	E	R	■	E	X	T	R	A
O	■	■	■	B	■	■	■	E	■	■	■	U	■	C
T	I	B	E	R	■	S	A	T	U	R	N	I	N	E
S	■	L	■	I	■	T	■	A	■	E	■	T	■	T
H	O	U	R	G	L	A	S	S	■	C	A	I	R	O
O	■	R	■	H	■	I	■	T	■	A	■	O	■	N
T	I	B	E	T	A	N	■	E	X	P	A	N	S	E

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *D L Bates, Hexham, Northumberland; J Slee, Mundesley, Norfolk; C D Lewis, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan; S Buchanan, Orphir, Orkney; R Warren, Coventry.*

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts, Gloucs, Avon, Soms	705
Berks, Bucks, Oxon	706
Beds, Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops, Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
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M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute all other times

HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
5.04 am	8.51 pm
Moon sets	Moon rises
9.43 pm	6.02 am

First quarter May 25

London 8.51 pm to 5.03 am
Bristol 9.00 pm to 5.13 am
Edinburgh 9.25 pm to 4.53 am
Manchester 9.08 pm to 5.02 am
Penzance 9.07 pm to 5.30 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
5.03 am	8.52 pm
Moon sets	Moon rises
10.34 pm	6.46 am

First quarter May 25

London 8.52 pm to 5.02 am
Bristol 9.02 pm to 5.12 am
Edinburgh 9.27 pm to 4.51 am
Manchester 9.10 pm to 5.01 am
Penzance 9.08 pm to 5.29 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2:01	7.1	2:25	7.1
Aberdeen	1:31	4.0	1:49	4.0
Avonmouth	7:35	13.1	7:51	13.1
Belfast	11:43	3.4	-	-
Cardiff	7:33	12.3	7:52	12.3
Devonport	6:08	5.2	12:03	5.3
Dover	11:39	6.6	11:57	6.6
Dublin (N Wall)	-	-	12:07	3.9
Falmouth	5:31	5.1	5:53	5.2
Greenock	0:45	3.3	1:14	3.3
Harwich	-	-	12:22	3.9
Holyhead	10.45	5.4	11:01	5.4
Hull (Albert D)	6:37	7.3	6:55	7.3
Ilfracombe	6:24	9.1	6:39	9.2
King's Lynn	6:37	6.8	6:57	6.7
Leith	2:57	5.4	3:17	5.4
Liverpool	11:42	9.1	11:54	9.1
Lowestoft	9:53	2.4	10:16	2.3
Margate	0:23	4.7	12:45	4.7
Milford Haven	6:35	6.8	6:51	6.8
Newquay	5:21	6.8	5:39	6.8
Oban	6:01	3.8	6:10	3.9
Penzance	4:59	5.4	5:18	5.4
Portland	7:16	2.0	7:31	2.1
Portsmouth	11:54	4.5	-	-
Shoreham	11:56	6.1	-	-
Southampton	11:11	4.4	11:29	4.4
Swansea	6:44	9.2	6:57	9.3
Tees	3:54	5.2	4:12	5.2
Walton-on-Naze	-	-	12:17	4.1

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** southern parts of England and Wales will have overcast, wet weather for much of the day, the rain stretching from South Wales to Lincolnshire by evening. The North and West will be mostly cloudy with some light, showery rain.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have bright or sunny conditions. The morning will start mainly dry with some ground frost. During the day showers will become widespread and over the hills there will be snow.

☐ **London, S E England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales:** cloudy, with rain spreading from the South. Winds light, northeast. Cold. Max 8C to 11C (46F to 52F).

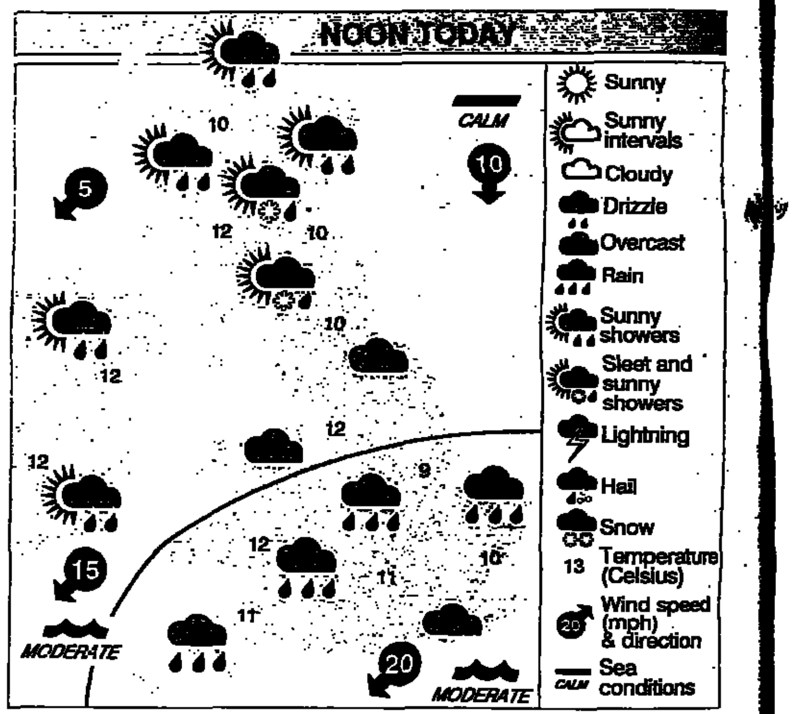
☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N, NE England:** bright early on, perhaps with some ground frost. Cloud will increase from the South with patchy rain or showers. Wind light, northeast. Cold. Max 8C 10C (46F to 50F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen:** rather cloudy with some bright intervals. Occasional showers. Winds light, northerly. Cold. Max 8C to 9C, (46F to 48F).

☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, N W Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland:** showers with bright or sunny intervals. Sleet or snow on hills. Winds light, north or northeast. Cool. Max 9C to 12C (48F to 54F).

☐ **Outlook:** the rain band will spread north as milder, brighter conditions move into the South.

NOON TODAY



AROUND BRITAIN

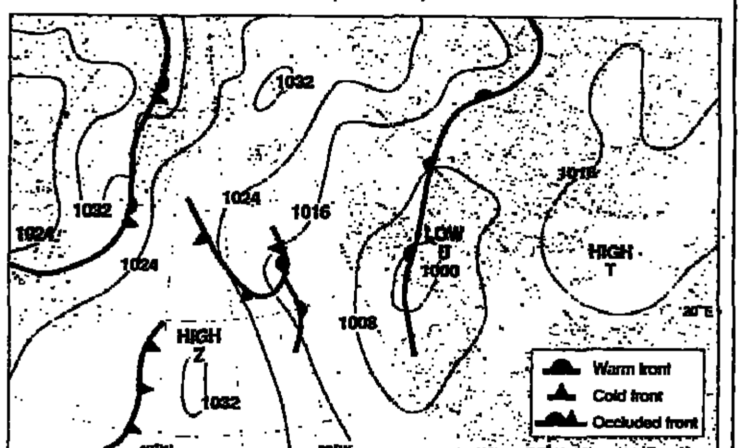
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail, r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	5.7	0.04	10	50	b
Anglesey	9.8	-	12	54	s
Aspatria	8.2	-	11	52	s
Aviemore	1.3	0.06	8	46	h
Belfast	5.9	0.13	11	52	sh
Birmingham	2.0	-	9	48	b
Bognor R	2.2	0.07	10	50	r
Bournem'th	-	0.01	10	50	r
Bristol	2.8	-	10	50	c
Buxton	4.5	-	7	45	du
Cardiff	2.4	-	10	50	b
Clacton	10.4	-	8	46	s
Cleethorpes	X				
Colwyn Bay	X				
Cromer	7.5	0.01	8	46	b
Dunbar	9.8	-	9	48	s
Eastbourne	0.3	0.04	9	48	
Edinburgh	X				
Eskdalemuir	2.8	0.01	8	46	c
Exmouth	2.9	-	10	50	c
Falmouth	5.4	-	14	57	du
Fishguard	8.4	-	11	52	s
Folkestone	2.4	0.01	9	48	r
Glasgow	2.2	0.01	11	52	sh
Guernsey	0.3	0.38	9	48	r
Hastings	2.2	0.03	8	46	r
Hayling I.	1.4	0.01	9	48	r
Herne Bay	3.7	0.02	8	46	r
Hove	X				
Hunstanton	8.7	-	10	50	s
Ilfracombe	X				
Isle of Man	3.1	-	10	50	b
Jersey	1.6	0.20	8	46	r
Kinloss	4.9	0.01	8	46	c
Leeds	0.9	0.01	9	48	c
Lerwick	7.4	0.08	7	45	h
Leuchars	1.6	0.01	8	46	sh
Littlehmptn	2.9	0.11	9	48	r
London	1.1	0.01	9	48	r
Lowestoft	6.4	0.01	10	50	c
Manchester	3.4	0.01	10	50	b
Margate	2.7	0.02	10	50	r
Minehead	0.8	-	8	46	c
Morecambe	X				
Newcastle	X				
Newquay	6.1	-	12	54	c
Norwich	5.6	0.01	9	48	b
Oxford	1.5	0.01	1050		
Penzance	X	-	13	55	b
Poole	1.7	-	11	52	c
Prestatyn	X	-	12	54	c
Ross-o-wye	3.1	-	10	50	c
Ryde	1.2	0.02	9	48	r
Salcombe	3.8	-	10	50	c
Sandown	0.2	0.01	9	48	r
Saunton Snd	5.9	-	9	48	b
Scarboro'	8.7	0.01	9	48	s
Shrewsbury	5.5	0.01	10	50	sh
Skegness	6.6	-	9	48	s
Southend	8.5	-	10	50	s
Southport	3.7	-	11	52	s
Southsea	0.5	0.02	10	50	r
Stornoway	4.5	0.04	8	46	sh
Swanage	1.3	0.01	9	48	r
Teignmouth	3.8	-	11	52	c
Tenby	X				
Tiree	14.3	-	10	50	s
Torquay	5.9	-	12	54	b
Tynemouth	X				
Ventnor	1.5	0.01	11	52	r
West-s-mare	X				
Weymouth	1.3	0.01	10	50	b

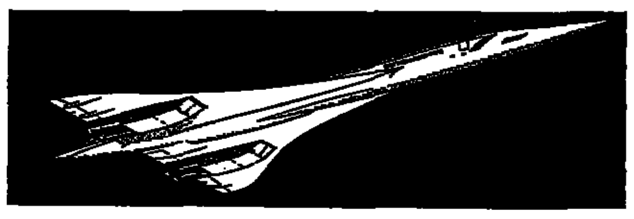
ABROAD

Ajaccio	20	68	f
Akrotiri	22	72	s
Alex'dria	23	73	s
Algiers	22	72	s
Amst'dm	9	48	f
Athens	25	77	s
B Aires	19	66	c
Bahrain	34	93	s
Bangkok	35	95	s
Barbados	30	86	f
Barcelona	21	70	s
Beirut	22	72	f
Belgrade	21	70	f
Berlin	10	50	c
Bermuda	20	68	f
Biarritz	20	68	f
Borde'x	23	73	s
Brussels	8	46	f
Budapest	22	72	f
Cairo	29	84	s
Cape Tn	21	70	s
Ch'church	X		
Chicago	X		
Cologne	13	55	f
Corfu	21	70	f
C'phagn	9	48	c
Dublin	12	54	f
Dubrovnik	19	66	b
Faro	19	66	s
Florence	22	72	c
Frankfurt	11	52	c
Funchal	18	64	f
Geneva	19	66	s
Gibraltar	20	68	f
Helsinki	3	37	d
Hong K	27	81	f
Innsbrck	21	70	s
Istanbul	22	72	s
Jeddah	X		
Jo'burg	17	63	f
L Angels	18	64	d
L Palmas	24	75	s
Le Tquet	8	46	f
Lisbon	15	59	f
Locarno	20	68	s
Luxembg	10	50	c
Luxor	X		
Madrid	20	68	f
Majorca	21	70	s
Malaga	21	70	f
Malta	22	72	s
Melb'rne	15	59	c
Mexico C	23	73	s
Miami	29	84	f
Milan	22	72	f
Montreal	18	64	s
Moscow	25	77	s
Munich	18	64	c
N Delhi	31	88	f
N York	11	52	f
Nairobi	24	75	c
Naples	21	70	c
Nice	19	66	s
Oslo	6	43	c
Paris	11	52	c
Peking	27	81	f
Perth	20	68	c
Prague	11	52	c
Reykjavik	7	45	f
Rhodes	20	68	f
Rio de J	21	70	f
Riyadh	40	104	s
Rome	20	68	s
S Fr'isco	17	63	c
S Paulo	17	63	d
Salzburg	21	70	s
Santiago	12	54	f
Seoul	28	82	s
Sing'por	32	90	f
St'kholm	5	41	c
Strasb'rg	13	55	c
Sydney	17	63	c
Tangier	21	70	f
Tel Aviv	26	79	s
Tenerife	24	75	f
Tokyo	20	68	s
Toronto	13	55	c
Tunis	27	81	s
Valencia	23	73	s
Vanc'ver	14	57	s
Venice	21	70	f
Vienna	19	66	c
Warsaw	18	64	s
Wash'ton	16	61	c
Wel'ngton	X		
Zurich	20	68	s

Temperatures at midday on Thursday. X = not available



Changes to the chart above from noon: low U will drift slowly north and fill; highs T and Z will remain stationary with little change in central pressure



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